EVENING EDITION

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CORNER-STONE VIEWED LAID FOR NEW ORDER OF EUROPE AT 2-DAY TALKS IN BERLIN

Axis War Chiefs Discuss Measures for Ultimate Victory

HITLER MEETS LAVAL

Domei

ROME, December 21.—Commenting upon the meeting which took place among leaders of the three Governments of Germany, Italy and France. Stefani News Agency stated that a corner-stone was laid for a New Order of Europe as the result of the meeting.

The conversation among Chancellor Adolf Hitler, Italian Foreign Minister Count Galeazzo Ciano and Italian Chief of the General Staff General Ugo Cavallero is understood by the news agency to have been intended to deliberate upon the measures necessary for the ultimate victory of the Axis Powers.

"The war being fought by the Axis resembles the construction of a building in which the bricks are firmly laid one by one," said the news agency.

"Those who are engaged in the construction of the building, know that the building will exist through the coming centuries.

"Chancellor Adolf Hitler's interview with French Premier Laval in the presence of the Italian Foreign Minister is quite significant as it is understood to have laid a corner-stone for the establishment of a New European Order."

New Axis Offensive Planned

Domei

ROME, December 21.—Plans for a new Axis offensive highlighted the recent conference among the German and Italian authorities including Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler and Italian Foreign Minister Count Galeazzo Ciano, it was unofficially revealed by the Italian Government circles.

The local journals today endorsed the above information and emphasized that the outlook for the future stages of the war has turned still more in favor of the Axis side.

The Messaggero declares, "In the conference, the German and Italian Government and military leaders decided on the principle of the two countries upon the basis of the views of Chancellor Hitler and Benito Mussolini and also scrutinized the measures to improve the Axis offensive operations, which will be carried out by the Axis forces in the near future.

The conference was not only of symbolical importance but had a historic and practical value. It is not difficult to imagine the grave importance of the confabulation from the fact that it was held at the German Headquarters under the current circumstances.

That the determination to fight the war to the last reaffirmed at the conference bears a guarantee to the confidence for the rosy future facing Nippon, Germany and Italy.

Gayda Gives Views

Virginio Gayda, world famous political commentator, writing in the Giornale d'Italia, declared as follows:

"The recent conference had no special significance and meant nothing more than the ordinary contact of the German and Italian authorities.

"It leaves no room for doubt, however, that marking the same conference, the Axis operations will enter a new stage. We must keep strict silence as to the contents of the conference but it can be imagined with safety that the following items highlighted the discussion:

1. Scrutinizing the general situation and especially the war situation in Europe, which is turning in favor of the Axis countries.
2. Complete unity of political and military views of the Axis countries.
3. That the center of warfare will turn to the Mediterranean operations to counter the enemy forces.
4. That the Axis forces will bolster the prosecution of the war under a new leadership and with new means.
5. That the outlook of the hostilities has turned more in favor of the Axis though the war will be prolonged and become difficult."

Blasting the Anglo-American propaganda, the Popolo di Roma stated: The enemy propaganda aimed at causing misunderstanding and dis-

(Continued on Page 2)

Italian King Inspects Nippon Photographs And Industrial Arts

Domei

ROME, December 21.—His Majesty King Victor Emmanuel III was pleased to attend this morning the Nipponese photographic and industrial arts' exhibition, introducing Nippon to the Italian people, which officially opened today at the Rome Gallery under the sponsorship of the Friends of Nippon Society. His Majesty accompanied by Nippon Ambassador-at-Large Zembei Horikiri, and diplomats of other Axis Powers, showed keen interest in the photographs of the Meiji and Yasukuni Shrines, and of various battle scenes including the dramatic surrender of Lieutenant-General Arthur E. Percival, former Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in Malai. The King graciously granted audience en masse to 55 Nipponese residents at the Gallery, after inspecting models of Nipponese theaters, classical dance masks and costumes.

AXIS STOPS ATTACKS OF ENEMY IN TUNISIA

Benghazi Harbor Blasted With Foe Losing One Medium-Sized Transport

Domei

BERLIN, December 21—No large-scale engagement is in evidence now in the Libyan front, the German High Command announced in its communique today, which covers the situation in North Africa and the British air raids yesterday on western Germany as follows:

War operations are strictly of a local nature in Libya. The Axis air forces, in an attack on Benghazi Harbor yesterday night, heavily damaged one medium sized enemy transport.

The Axis forces in Tunisia successfully repulsed all enemy counter-offensives. Some Axis bombers, operating in the same area, rained explosives on enemy motorcars and harbor facilities.

Yesterday night Duesburg and some other points in western Germany were subjected to British air raids. The raiders dropped explosives and incendiary bombs which caused damage in the residential quarters. Some non-combatants were killed while others were injured. Twelve enemy raiders were downed by the German defense corps.

A formation of German planes yesterday bombed Hull Harbor on the British coast.

PEACEFUL LIFE PURSUED BY INDONESIAN SOLDIERS

Domei

SHONAN, December 18.—The soldiers belonging to the former Dutch East Indies army who had once opposed the Japanese Forces are now engaged in the cultivation of rice-fields assisting the food production of Sumatra under the guidance of the Japanese Administration.

More than 1,453 soldiers of the former Dutch East Indies army totaling 228 are settled in Sigaragara, Archin State. They have 900 hectares of rice-fields under their cultivation.

The Indonesian soldiers belonging to the former Dutch East Indies army, who were released on Tenchosetsu, are now making their homes in Sumatra.

Irrigation facilities on the Aras River have also been completed and the self-sufficiency plans of foodstuffs established.

No friction between inhabitants of Sumatra and these settlers has been reported.

Columbia Cabinet Resigns

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 20.—The Columbian Cabinet suddenly decided to resign en bloc today and it is reported to be due to international political situations. The Cabinet was formed only in August this year.

NIPPON UNITS TAKE STRONGHOLD OF RED IN HUPEH OPERATION

Belonged to New 4th Army—Imperial Forces Also Occupy Mt. Taiwu

COLLEGE, DEPOT SEIZED

1 Year Fighting in North China Shows Chiangsters' Strength Greatly Reduced

Domei

AT A NIPPON BASE IN CHINA, December 21.—A stronghold of the enemy's Fifth Division belonging to the Communist New Fourth Army in Hupeh Province near the Peking-Hankow Railway was occupied by the Imperial units last Friday, it was revealed today.

Nippon units, which began mopping-up operations against the New Fourth Army on December 16, took Mt. Taiwu, 90 kilometers north of Hankow, headquarters of the Fifth Division, and communist college and clothing depot located on Mt. Siaowu in the same region.

It was revealed that the Imperial units took 50 prisoners, one trench mortar, a huge quantity of small arms and ammunitions, while the enemy left behind 450 dead. Military establishments, including depots, were also reported to have been destroyed by the Nippon forces.

War Results Revealed

Domei

PEKING, December 20.—As a result of the sweeping operations carried out by the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in North China during the past year, Chungking forces in that area have been reduced to less than one-third of the 700,000 troops which they claimed to possess last year.

The resisting power of the Chungking units in the First War Zone under the command of General Chiang Ting-wen has been virtually wiped out, while the remnant Chungking forces in the Shantung, Hopeh and Chahar regions are said to be on the verge of extinction because of internal clashes, famines and floods.

A brief review of the Japanese military operations in North China follows:

The operations were directed chiefly against the main force of the Chungking units which had been driven previously from Hopeh Province and which had entrenched themselves along the rugged mountain districts of Shantung and Shansi provinces as well as against enemy forces located on the southern bank of the Yellow River in Honan Province.

Operations in Shantung Province

Early this year the Nippon Forces swept into action against the troops under the command of General Yu Hsueh-chung in Central Shantung Province, dealing them a shattering blow. Toward the end of May, operations were launched against the enemy's 39th Group Army, in which heavy damage was inflicted on the Chungking units.

In the second central Shantung campaign, carried out since August, more than 30,000 Chungking troops have surrendered, while on April 22 General Sun Liang-cheng pledged his allegiance to the National Government of China at Nanking. This action has gone a long way toward encouraging other Chungking troops to discontinue their meaningless resistance.

In Shantung province, the Japanese Forces smashed the main force of the Chungking Army under the command of General Kao Kwei-tsu and also defeated a unit of the 27th Army in the vicinity of Lingchwan.

Chinese Defeats in Shansi

Devastating bombardments were carried out against the railway bridges and many military facilities along the Lunghai Railway and also at Tungkwan severely dislocating the enemy supply lines on the opposite bank of the Yellow River.

In the southern part of Shansi Province, the Nippon units defeated the Chungking troops under the command of General Hu Tsung-nan.

Advance in Honan Province

In Honan province, large-scale operations were launched in June along the border districts of Shansi, Hopeh and Honan provinces, result-

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8 Nippon Internees Succumb in Australia, Reveals Foreign Office

Quoting information received from the International Red Cross at Geneva, the Foreign Office on Monday disclosed that eight Japanese internees have died in Australia, states Domei. It was added that 53 Japanese nationals were additionally interned in the United States. The Foreign Office further disclosed that 28 Japanese internees in the United States were freed, 20 of whom were released on oath.

2,780 SOVIET TANKS LOST FROM DEC. 1-20

Germans Shoot Down 287 Enemy Planes in One Week on Eastern Front

VOLGA SEES FIERCE FIGHT

Russians Forced to Retreat in Tropetz Sector With Heavy Losses

Domei

BERLIN, December 21.—In 20 days from December 1 to 20 German land and air forces smashed or captured 2,780 Soviet tanks in the Eastern Front, according to German authorities.

287 Enemy Planes Downed

Domei

BERLIN, December 21.—In one week from December 12 to 18, German forces shot down 287 Soviet airplanes in the Eastern Front, and in the same period Germany lost 35 planes, it is announced by the German High Command. On December 20, it was also reported that the Germans shot down 29 Soviet planes.

Volga Sector Active

Domei

BERLIN, December 21.—The German forces on the Eastern Front, from December 11 to 20, destroyed or captured 1,518 tanks, the German High Command announced today. Other highlights in the announcement, covering the situation in the same front, follow:

Severe fighting is still going on in the Volga River sector, and German mobile forces and infantry units have inflicted heavy damage on the Soviet troops. Latest reports disclose that the Soviets yesterday lost more than 70 tanks, during the battles in that area.

The powerful Soviet infantry division, which had been on the offensive for the past several days, finally succeeded in penetrating the the German position at one point. However, this was realized only after great sacrifice by the enemy. The momentary success, however, was soon effectively rendered useless by the German forces who took immediate steps to prevent the expansion of Soviet influence.

The German-Italian-Rumanian combined air forces, meantime, dumped heavy bombs on Soviet troop concentrations. They shot down 23 Soviet planes while six others were downed by German anti-aircraft gunfire.

Crack German forces in the Tropetz sector succeeded in stopping repeated Soviet counter-offensives in the western sector. The Soviets were forced to retreat with heavy losses. The Germans, around Lake Ilmen, reduced many enemy points.

U.S. STRATEGIC ZONES SET

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 21.—The Eastern Defense Commander of the United States today announced the designation of special areas in various Eastern States, into which even American citizens would not be permitted to enter without proper permits.

Within such designated areas are located army barracks, war industry plants, water reservoirs, dams, bridges, airfields, warehouses attached to harbors, post offices and others.

The coastal districts of Florida, in particular, are included in these newly designated prohibited areas.

U.S. Officer Kills 6 Poilus

Domei

LISBON, December 21.—The Commander of the United States forces in Algeria shot to death six French officers on the ground of refusing to pledge allegiance to Admiral Jean Francois Darlan, it is reported.

ENTIRE THAI NATION MAKING BIG STRIDES IN CULTURAL SPHERE

Yanagizawa Says Nippon-Thailand Culture Agreement Will Realize Good Results

ENVISIONS NEW ERA AHEAD

People Show Great Pride in Country—War Spurs Enthusiasm

By the signing of the cultural agreement, the two nations of Nippon and Thailand have been married and are going to give birth to a "child" of culture, declared Ken Yanagizawa, president of the Nippon-Thai Culture Institute in Bangkok, who has returned here to confer with the officials of the Ministry of Greater East Asiatic Affairs.

"Since Thailand established the constitutional system in 1932," said Mr. Yanagizawa "that country has exerted its efforts to eradicate everything colored with the Anglo-American tinge, simultaneously increasing cultural establishments in the country. With Premier Luang Pibul Songgram as their supreme leader, the people of Thailand have succeeded in making a phenomenal progress in the field of culture in a very short period. They have become a positive nation and take much pride in their national culture. They are now eager to have their culture made known and appreciated by foreign countries, especially by Nippon.

Imbued With Spirit

"Buddhism constitutes the nucleus and foundation of Thai culture. In spite of the fact that Thai culture is formed on the basis of exoteric Buddhism, the Thailanders are constructive in their point of view and are fully imbued with the 'New Spirit of Asia.'

"The people of Thailand have a deep admiration for Nippon and its culture. This trend has been remarkably accelerated since the War of Greater East Asia broke out. Therefore, we are going to spur our cultural activities toward Thailand by mobilizing every facility available in order to realize the exchange of culture between the two countries."

Reviewing the past one year in which the people of Thailand have shown a marked enthusiasm for the enhancement of their national culture as well as for the strengthening of cultural ties with Nippon, Mr. Yanagizawa continued,

"Last summer, I held negotiations with Thai Foreign Minister Vichitra Vichitravadhakarn over the problems of Nippon-Thai cultural exchange and of the creation of the Greater East Asiatic culture. Premier Songgram extended much help in this regard. I am now pleased to recall that my talks with the Thai Foreign Minister led to the recent conclusion of the cultural agreement between the two countries.

Culture Move Enhanced

"Ever since my conferences with Foreign Minister Vichitravadhakarn, the cultural movement in Thailand has become remarkably vigorous. The Committee for the Promotion of National Culture was established with the Premier, Home, Foreign and Education Ministers on the staff. Subsequently, the Committee for the Improvement of the Thai language and the Thai Literary Association were created under the patronship of Premier Songgram.

"The Nippon-Thai Culture Institute, in the meantime, is planning to establish a library of the Nippon language, industrial hall, research institute and a Nipponese language school."

Referring to the ceremonies to commemorate the conclusion of the cultural agreement, Mr. Yanagizawa disclosed that a luncheon party and a lecture meeting will be held in Tokyo in the latter part of January under the joint sponsorship of the Society for International Cultural Relations, the International Students' Association and the Nippon-Thai Association. A grand meeting will be held also in Bangkok to commemorate the signing of the pact.

In memory of the event and also to enhance the significance embodied by the same agreement, scientific theses by Nipponese and Thai scholars will be published. Also, a goodwill mission consisting of the Toho Opera Company and athletes will be dispatched to Thailand and, in exchange, a Thai mission of the dancers of the

(Continued on Page 2)

SUPREME IMPERIAL GRACE ACCORDED NANKING'S CHIEF; WANG GREATLY IMPRESSED

Acts of Imperial Grace Still Vivid, Wang Tells Press

COOPERATION AGREED

Following his return from this morning's Imperial Audience, President Wang Ching-wei, deeply affected by the various acts of Imperial Favor granted him, spoke to members of the press as follows:

"All the kindnesses extended to me at my last visit to your country in June, last year, still remain vivid in my memory. On the present visit, I have again been graciously received by His Majesty the Emperor of Nippon, and furthermore am in receipt of an honorable decoration. These courtesies extended to me by His Majesty the Emperor have most deeply impressed me.

"On various problems of the day, I have already frankly exchanged views with Premier General Hideki Tojo, Foreign Minister Masayuki Tani, and Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs Kazuo Aoki, and I am pleased to say that as the result of these conferences, the way for mutual cooperation between the two countries for the execution of the War of Greater East Asia has been clarified.

"Since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the forces of your country have manifested patriotic spirit and bravery, and attaining glorious war results, have already completely smashed the British and American bases in the Pacific and South Seas. That is not only a great glory for your country, but it is also an honor for East Asia. Particularly, since in only one year such glorious and unparalleled results have been obtained is indeed wonderful.

"Despite the repeated victories of importance, the people of your country, official and public, have remained modest, and while forces at the front are exerting their valor, those at home are also working sincerely and hard. Since my arrival in your country, I have witnessed everywhere that the officials and people are strongly united, ever faithfully fulfilling their duties, and the traditional spirit of your country is manifested throughout the country. Thus, I have realized that the glorious victory of your nation is not accidental. Furthermore. I believe that this spirit shown by Nippon is a good example for other nations of East Asia to follow.

"With the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the National Government of China declared that we would share everything with Nippon, and since then realized the importance of our responsibility. Only I regret deeply that our power is limited and we have been unable to contribute much to your country. But we are endeavoring to develop ourselves and become able to share more things with Nippon.

"It is for this purpose that we have started the Hsinmin movement to mobilize the whole country spiritually, so that the people would be made to realize the meaning of the War of Greater East Asia, and the necessity of cooperation with Nippon. In the past one year, preparations for this movement have been made and it is now making steady progress.

"We have now entered the second year of the war, and Nippon is putting forth every effort to gain greater war results in the second year than attained in the first year. This is indeed the key to the attainment of the objective of the War of Greater East Asia and also the foundation for the establishment of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. The National Government of China is also determined to follow the example of Nippon.

"This determination I have fully expressed to your Government, and I am happy to say that we are fully agreed on various problems of mutual cooperation. It also gives me much pleasure to report you this fact."

Nippon Can Attack American Mainland, Says Ex-Envoy Grew

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 21.—Joseph Clark Grew, former United States Ambassador to Nippon, warned the American public that it is quite possible for the Imperial Forces to attack the mainland of the United States, in his address delivered today at Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut, it is reported from Washington. "If Nippon is left to develop freely the vast occupied territories, the materialization of Nippon's plan for conquering the American mainland would become only a question of time," he declared. Cities in the United States are in constant danger. If Nippon's war structure is to develop as it is rapidly doing so today, there is possibility of Nippon becoming stronger than the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union. Therefore, a serious danger faces us today."

SHIGEMITSU TALKS ON CHINA PROBLEMS

Tells Reporters Recent Parley In Nanking of Nippon Leaders Was Successful

Mamoru Shigemitsu, Nippon Ambassador to Nanking, who returned to Tokyo again only three weeks after he had left for his post, talked to the press yesterday on various questions pending between this country and new China.

Interviewed by local newspapermen at the Imperial Hotel at 4 p.m., Ambassador Shigemitsu stated:

"I saw today Premier General Hideki Tojo, Foreign Minister Masayuki Tani, and Greater East Asiatic Affairs Minister Kazuo Aoki on various important problems, and I will hold more discussions with these Cabinet members. I will also see Navy Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada and Finance Minister Okinori Kaya."

The Ambassador commented that the conference recently held at Nanking among the Nippon Ministers and Consuls-General under his chairmanship was a fair success in that it clarified and strengthened the home Government's intentions regarding China in the minds of the diplomatic representatives in China. "The two-day parley was enough to permeate among those present that which I had been instructed by the interested authorities in Tokyo," the Ambassador declared.

"As the result of this conference, the representatives will put forth more effort toward the realization of the various measures planned by the Nippon Government relative to its policy toward China, which aims mainly at the furtherance of Nipponese-Chinese cooperation in the task of effecting enduring peace in East Asia."

As to the present visit of President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of China, Mr. Shigemitsu asserted that the honored visitor wishes as the highest State executive, to pay his personal respects to His Majesty the Emperor of Nippon, and, as the president of the Executive Yuan, confer with Premier Tojo and other leaders of the Nippon Government.

"It is already two years since the Government at Nanking moved its capital to its present site. President Wang naturally has many things to discuss with the Nippon Government, the chief supporter of his Government on conditions which have subsequently developed," the visiting Ambassador added.

"The Chinese people in general," he continued, "are steadily becoming interested in the affairs of the world. In general, they believe in tiding over the current international crisis through close collaboration with Nippon."

The Japanese, the Ambassador stressed, should keep this well in mind and extend a helping hand to the Chinese who, in turn, should maintain close relationships with the people of Nippon.

He also stated that he was of the view that the conference among leading Nippon diplomats and consuls in China will be reopened once a year or so.

Imperial Favors Manifested in Audience at Palace

SUITE ALSO HONORED

His Majesty the Emperor was pleased to receive in audience, this morning, President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of the Republic of China.

President Wang, who is now visiting this country to express congratulations on Nippon's brilliant war victories and, at the same time, to exchange views and opinions with high officials here with a view to rendering possible still closer cooperation between Nippon and China, received this highest honor in his capacity as Chief Executive of the National Government of China.

In this connection, it is recalled that today's audience is the second that has been granted him since June, last year, when he was graciously received by His Majesty the Emperor for the first time.

At 10:10 a.m. President Wang, accompanied by his suite, left his quarters in a motorcar specially dispatched by the Imperial Household Department and proceeded to the Imperial Palace from the Nijubashi entrance with Baron Morinari Takei, a master of ceremony of the Imperial Household Department, leading the way.

His Majesty the Emperor was graciously pleased to offer His Hand in greeting to President Wang at the portico of the Imperial Palace.

The Nanking Chief Executive was then ushered by Viscount Yoshitami Matsudaira, Grand Master of Ceremonies, into the Phoenix Hall where His Imperial Majesty graciously conversed with President Wang through a court interpreter.

Following this unprecedented act of Imperial Benevolence, the members of President Wang's suite were honored with an Imperial Audience. His Imperial Majesty was pleased to introduce Imperial Household Minister Tsuneo Matsudaira and other Court officials to President Wang.

On his departure, His Imperial Majesty was again pleased to stand at the portico to graciously see off the Nanking Chief Executive, who with members of his suite, departed from the Imperial Palace in a state of exaltation over the supreme honor that had been granted them.

SHONAN SERVICE SOCIETY TO BE ESTABLISHED SOON

Civilian Nipponese in Malai, Sumatra Will Be Included In Organization

Domei

SHONAN, December 21.—A Shonan Hoko Kai or the Shonan Service Association, covering all Nippon residents in Malai and Sumatra, numbering in all more than 3,700 persons, excluding soldiers and military employes, will be organized shortly under the sponsorship of the Shonan Military Administration, it was learned today.

A meeting of the sponsors for the association was held here this morning, when the general set-up of the association was decided upon.

The aims of the proposed organization lie in the promotion of further friendship among Nippon residents, development of their health and further cooperation on the part of the residents with the Military Administration.

The headquarters of the association will be situated in Shonan City and branches will be established in all States and provinces of Malai and Sumatra. There also will be organized local vocational units.

Murphy to Visit Africa

Nichi Nichi

LISBON, December 21.—The British-American Headquarters in North Africa announced yesterday that Robert Murphy will be dispatched to North Africa as a personal representative of President Franklin Roosevelt.

MANCHOU TO BOOST HEALTH OF PEOPLE

¥50-Million Organization Planned Under Joint Sponsorship Of Tokyo and Hsinking

ANNUAL PAYMENTS PLANNED

Budgets for ¥2,180,000 Mapped by Two Countries for First Projected Institutions

A large health protection organization will be founded in Manchoukuo under the joint capitalization of Nippon and Manchoukuo which is now estimated at some ¥50,000,000.

The new organization, according to the Asahi, will largely attend to the health of the colonizers in the new State, with an additional work of seeing to the health of the Manchoukuoan people in general.

The Ministry of Greater East Asiatic Affairs is now arranging to set up an item in its budget for the defray of ¥2,180,000 next year for the projected foundation. The same amount will also be paid next year by the Manchoukuoan Government which will additionally pay ¥500,000 for the establishment of a general management office for the foundation to be erected within next year. These annual payments by the two Governments will be kept up for some years to come, which will finally total about ¥50,000,000.

The intended foundation will have its headquarters at Hsinking with its major branches scattered in all provinces. All hsiens in the provinces will each have a sub-branch of the establishment.

As arranged now, the colonist villages will have a clinic under the management of the foundation at the ratio of one clinic for one group of 300 colonists' households. A well equipped hospital will be established for each 10 clinics. The hospital is to attend to serious cases and give proper treatment which is beyond the scope of the clinic. The hospital will also engage in the preparation of various serums to be used against contagious diseases inclusive of tuberculosis.

As the first step toward the completion of the new establishment, the Asahi reported, Manchoukuo is expected to have more than 400 clinics operating next year. These clinics will be realized by taking over other clinics now run in the country under various managements. Next year will also see the building of two large hospitals by the foundation.

In view of the need of having many medical practitioners for the future growth of the health foundation, it has now been arranged between the interested authorities of both Governments that even those who are not licenced here in Nippon will be employed by the new organization in Manchoukuo on the merit of their certificates proving their apprenticeship under regular practitioners for certain years. They are asked to apply soon to the Ministry of Greater East Asiatic Affairs.

MEDICAL ASSOCIATION TO BE MOVED TO KANDA

Plans Gigantic Program Calling For Sanatoriums, Hospitals To Fight Tuberculosis

The Headquarters of the Nippon Medical Association, which was established on July 1 in accordance with the National Medical Law, will be moved within this year from its present office at the Sankaido, Akasaka, to the branch of the Matsuya at Kanda, reports the Asahi.

In order to oust tuberculosis completely from wartime Nippon, the Association is planning next year, at the cost of ¥10,000,000, to purchase land for the construction of over 1,300 tuberculosis sanatoriums throughout the country and to double the present 20,000 beds, which, within the next 3 years, will be increased to a total of 100,000.

It is further reported that the Association is also planning to establish central synthetic hospitals both at Tokyo and Osaka, as well as one synthetic hospital in each prefecture and subprefecture.

ERSATZ FUEL FOR PORTUGAL

Large Factory to Be Built in Three Months

LISBON.—Sanction has already been given by the Ministry of Economics for the construction of a large factory for the production of substitute fuel for motor vehicles at Vila Franca, near Lisbon.

The factory is to be completed within three months and its output is to amount to 100,000 liters by the end of March, 1943. The company is equipped with a capital of 10,000,000 escudos. Its product will be called "kegatalita."

Thai Students in Nippon

The above shows a happy gathering of Thai students, who have come to Tokyo, the highest seat of learning in East Asia, to study the culture and language of Nippon, the leader nation of the Co-Prosperity Sphere. In this connection, it is interesting to note that the construction of a Nippon-Thailand School for Thai students was completed here on the auspicious occasion of the first anniversary of the conclusion of the Nippon-Thailand Offensive-Defensive Alliance Treaty and the signing of the Culture Agreement between these two nations.

Berlin Talks Assure European New Order

(Continued From Page 1)

sension between Italy and Germany has proved a miserable failure. As the result of the recent Italo-German conference, the enemies have been forced to pay a new consideration to the firm determination of the Axis countries to fight the war to the last and also to the unshakable friendship existing between the two nations of Italy and Germany.

Axis Leaders Meet

Domei

BERLIN, December 20.—Chancellor Adolf Hitler received Count Galeazzo Ciano, Italian Foreign Minister, and General Ugo Cavallero, Italian Chief of General Staff, at the Headquarters of the German armed forces on December 18 and 19 and discussed questions of the German-Italian joint-strategy, the High Command disclosed today.

Grand Marshal Hermann W. Goering, President of the Supreme Defense Council, Colonel Joachim von Ribbentrop, Foreign Minister, and Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, Chief of the High Command, also attended the meeting in which a complete agreement was reached on all points of discussion between German and Italian leaders.

Meanwhile, Chancellor Hitler met Premier Pierre Laval in the presence of Count Ciano, on December 19 and dwelt at length on vital French matters.

Genial Atmosphere

By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Japan Times Advertiser)

BERLIN, December 20.—According to a communique issued by the Fuehrer's Headquarters today on the tripartite conference, it progressed in a most friendly atmosphere and, although the exact substance of the discussions has not been disclosed, it is considered to have drawn the Vichy Government closer to the Axis than at the tripartite conference at Munich, which was held immediately after the Anglo-American landings in North Africa, judging from the subsequent remarks of Premier Laval, who had been given full discretionary powers by Marshal Philippe Petain, Chief of the French State, and from the communique.

It is believed that the discussions were concerned with the new French military organization, independence of the French Government within the German-occupied areas, strengthening of the French State through the formation of a single national party, dispatch of troops to the eastern front, exchange of French prisoners of war for French workers, attitude of France toward the Anglo-American invasions and other pending issues.

Premier Laval, who is known to hold the opinion that there is no course open to France if it is to live but to hoist the banner of anti-Communism and to cooperate with the Axis, is expected to use the full powers vested in him for the unification of France in every way.

In view of the difficulty of effecting national unity so that it will join the Axis camp, since many political undercurrents exist in France, it is held that German-French relations require still further thought.

Hitler Holds Talk

By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Japan Times Advertiser)

ROME, December 20.—Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler held important conversations with Italian Foreign Minister Count Galeazzo Ciano, Marshal Ugo Cavallero, Chief of the Italian Army General Staff, and Premier Pierre Laval of France, at the Fuehrer's Headquarters in Berlin late last week.

It is understood that the German-Italian conversations had to do with the settlement of the various vital political and strategic problems pending between the two countries and the one with the French Premier, with the various current French problems.

Count Ciano, accompanied by Marshal Cavallero, called on the Fuehrer on December 18 and entered into conversation with him that day, continuing it the following day. Present at these conversations were also Grand Marshal Hermann W. Goering, President of the Reich Supreme Defense Council, Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop and Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, Inspector-General of the Reich Army. As a result of the discussions, complete agreement was reached on various pending political and strategic issues between Germany and Italy. The two countries firmly pledged to continue their efforts and to concentrate their total strengths on the drive for ultimate victory.

Following these consultations, on December 19, Chancellor Hitler, attended by Grand Marshal Goering and Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop and with Count Ciano and Marshal Cavallero participating saw Premier Laval with whom they discussed various pending French issues for some hours.

Key Issues Discussed

By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Japan Times Advertiser)

ROME, December 20.—The Italo-German talks were concerned with various important political matters, besides the strategic questions relating to the eastern front, Libya and Tunisia, that have risen since the setting in of the new situation in the Mediterranean, according to the surmise prevalent here.

For the last few days, the Italian press has been evincing much interest in regard to the danger of Anglo-American invasions of the Iberian Peninsula, the Spanish territory in North Africa and Portuguese North Africa. It is also attaching much importance to the visit of Spanish Foreign Minister General Francisco G. Jordana to Lisbon and to the possible moves of Spain and Portugal.

School for Thai Students to Study Here Completed on Signing of Culture Pact

On the felicitous day of the first anniversary of the conclusion of the Nippon-Thailand Offensive and Defensive Alliance and also of the exchange of the ratifications of the cultural agreement between the two nations, the building of the Nippon-Thailand School was completed, states the Asahi. The school covers an area of 3,600 tsubo and is situated at Kitazawa-cho, Setagaya-ku.

The construction of the school was first undertaken in June, 1940, for the purpose of accommodating the Thai students coming to this country to study. Thai Premier Luang Pibul Songgram will be the patron of the school and General Senjuro Hayashi, the president, while the vice-presidentship will be held by Masaatsu Yasuoka, one of the foremost scholars of Nippon Spirit.

About 150 boy and girl students will be sent here next April to study the language and culture of Nippon at this school. After finishing the course of from one to one and a half years, they will enter various higher-grade educational institutions here.

The school is equipped with a library, lodging quarters, studies and an extensive playground. A plan is being drafted to build a gymnasium for martial arts.

On the other hand, the authorities of the Nippon-Thailand School are planning to establish a branch school in Bangkok through which the returned Thai students will conduct political, economic and cultural campaigns among the people of Thailand with the ultimate aim of strengthening moral ties between the two nations.

In this connection, General Hayashi, the first president of the school, declared that he will contribute his bit to further enhance the relations between the two countries of old tradition and long history through the medium of intellectual youth, thereby contributing in no small measure toward the emancipation of Asia.

188,200 Marriages in Italy

ROME.—During the first eight months of this year 188,200 marriages were concluded in Italy compared with 174,900 during the first eight months in 1939.

THAI ENVOY JAIYANAMA GETS KWANNON STATUE

Buddhist Society Here Makes Present Feting Anniversary Of Military Pact

Prominent members of the Kokusai Bukkyo Kyokai or International Buddhist Society of which Dr. Tetsujiro Inouye is the president, visited the Thai Embassy on Monday to present a white porcelain figure of the Goddess Kwannon or Goddess of Mercy to Ambassador Nai Direck Jaiyanama on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Nippon-Thailand Military Alliance, states Domei.

After due presentation of the sacred statue which measures approximately two feet in height, Buddhist services were held at the International Buddhist Society to pray for victory in the current war.

Meanwhile, the same Society telegraphed congratulatory messages appropriate of the occasion to Thai Foreign Minister Luang Vichitra Vadhakarn.

It is recalled that the Society exchanged goodwill messages with Thai Premier Field Marshal Luang Pibul Songgram a year ago when the Nippon-Thailand Offensive-Defensive Alliance was signed.

U.S. HOTELS REQUISITIONED

Affect 300 as Government Uses Them for Military Purposes

LISBON.—Three hundred American hotels with altogether 35,000 rooms have so far been seized by the United States Government for military purposes, reports the magazine, Time, according to a Washington dispatch.

Most of the hotels taken over by the Government are situated in health resorts, such as Miami Beach, where no less than 150 large and small hotels have been requisitioned. In Atlantic City, a total of 44 hotels was seized by the military authorities.

Manchou Lecturers Arrive

C.P.S.

NANKING, December 18.—Chang Huan-Hsiang, Wang Tzu-Heng and Chu Ping-Shan, lecturers sent to China by the Concordia Society of Manchoukuo in exchange for Chinese lecturers, arrived here recently.

CHUNGKING DEMANDS RETAKING OF BURMA

Official Circles in U.S. Recognize Necessity, but Hands Are Tied

Nichi Nichi

CANTON, December 21.—Chungking is eagerly demanding the recovery of Burma, and public opinion in the United States is also recognizing the importance of regaining Burma, according to information reaching here recently.

Commentators at Washington are said to be of the opinion that United States official circles are realizing the urgent importance of recapturing Burma, but at the same time they admit the necessity of vast preparations, particularly of using many warships and transports.

The New York Times, in its issue of December 19, demanded that troops and transports should be properly detailed to all fronts of the present World War, and also declared that the Burma front is just as important as the African or Soviet front.

Meanwhile, David Lawrence, noted commentator, warned the United States public against retaining an optimistic view that Nippon should be handled after the complete defeat of Chancellor Hitler.

"Such opinion is considered very dangerous by those who are not well versed in the condition in East Asia because by the time we can defeat Adolf Hitler completely, Nippon in the meanwhile will have sufficient time to make all necessary preparations. The cooperation of the British naval fleet with the American navy in the Pacific or the utilization of big airplanes now under construction by the American forces in the Pacific will be most effective at present for Nippon has not yet strengthened its hold on the occupied territories. Thus, it is now the moment for immediately opening the route for aiding Chungking."

Entire Thai Nation Making Big Strides In Cultural Sphere

(Continued From Page 1)

National Conservatory and athletes will visit Nippon.

Aid to Common Aim

Domei

BANGKOK, December 21.—There is no room for doubt that the newly signed Cultural Agreement will contribute much to the successful realization of the common aim of Thailand and Nippon, it was emphasized by Prince Varnvaidyakara Vavavarn, foremost international political commentator of Thailand, writing editorially in the December 22 issue of the Prachachatnation, an influential local journal.

His comment follows:

"Thailand and Nippon are fighting hand-in-hand for the establishment of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. The sacred pledge for mutual collaboration was made solemnly just one year ago today in front of the sacred Emerald Buddha.

"During the past one year, the Imperial Forces of Nippon have achieved dazzling war results on on every battlefield, thus eradicating Anglo-American influences from all regions of Greater East Asia. Our army has taken part in actual battles in collaboration with them and Nippon has duly recognized our help by declaring time and again that her successes have been largely due to Thai cooperation.

"In the political field also, the two Governments have strived to increase the cordial relationship binding the two nations by exchanging missions for congratulation. The Thai Government has recognized Manchoukuo and the National Government of China at Nanking. Manchoukuo and our country have established legations in Bangkok and Hsinking respectively and are maintaining cordial relations.

"Thailand holds a very important position, geographically, strategically, culturally and politically, in the creation of a New Order in Greater East Asia. She is so placed that she can extend help to Nippon to bring the final victory to both countries.

"As for economical problems, both Nippon and Thailand have been affected greatly by the current war. Fully cognizant that Nippon must send large amounts of material to her occupied territories at the present moment, our country is striving to attain self-supply.

"The two countries have concluded an agreement to facilitate cultural exchange and to increase understanding between them. There is no doubt that this pact will contribute much toward the accomplishment of the common aim of Thailand and Nippon."

Central Council Expands Duty

C.P.S.

NANKING, December 18.—Before the inauguration of a Public Functionaries Disciplinary Commission, all impeachments of Government officials will be temporarily handled by the Central Political Council.

Press Comments

Tuesday, December 22

NICHI NICHI—Significance of Nippon-Thailand Cultural Agreement; Battle Array of Europe Now Completed

TOKYO SHIMBUN—Propaganda—Effective and Futile

Significance of Nippon-Thailand Cultural Agreement

NICHI NICHI—On this occasion of the first anniversary of the memorable signing of the Nippon-Thailand Defensive and Offensive Alliance Treaty, it is a matter for fresh felicitations that a cultural agreement has been concluded between the two countries, both for the sake of the signatories and for the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

With the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, Thailand at once undertook to conclude an alliance for both defense and offense as a link in the Greater East Asia ring and in the one year that has gone by this alliance has yielded salutary results in strategic, political and economic fields. In this regard, facts speak louder than words. The cultural agreement just concluded is of deep significance in that it is calculated to tighten and strengthen the alliance relationship between Thailand and Nippon and to suggest the way in which the cultural construction of Greater East Asia should proceed.

This epochal pact composed of 14 articles provides for every field of cultural activity in which close cooperation between the two countries may be conducted. The activities stipulated include the holding of cultural conferences aimed at the promotion of cultural ties between the two countries, distribution of publications, films, photographs, musical scores and records, their exhibition and presentation, institution of the chair of Nipponese culture in Thailand's universities and that of Thai culture in Nipponese universities, exchange parties of youth and juveniles and athletes and athletic teams between the two countries and regular broadcasts from each to the other, all designed to increase the understanding of each by the other and to raise the moral level of cooperation to the highest pitch. Such cultural ties are indispensable for true strengthening of the moral unity between the two countries. This can be said not only of relations between Thailand and Nippon but of the entire Greater East Asia.

The members of Greater East Asia have not only been brought together in the fields of strategy, politics and economy but also in culture. Not only must the evil Anglo-American influences be wiped out from the sphere but a new culture indigenous to East Asia must be built up and nurtured.

Battle Array of Europe Now Completed

NICHI NICHI—On December 19, representatives of Germany, Italy and France met at the Fuehrer's Headquarters in Berlin. The following day it was announced at Lisbon that an Iberian bloc had been formed between Spain and Italy.

Both are events of enormous importance. In the former case nothing of the results of the conversations has yet been announced but since the French problem evidently was the subject of the discussions it is not difficult to imagine what the general results were. With the Anglo-American invasion of North Africa, the international position of France suddenly became quite delicate and the Vichy Government was faced with the necessity of making its attitude of cooperation with the Axis clear cut and unmistakable. Thus, Marshal Philippe H. Petain, Chief of the French State, and Premier Pierre Laval declared all-out cooperation with the Axis. Consequently it became necessary to discuss the steps to be taken for such all-out cooperation. Presumably the conversations held at the Fuehrer's Headquarters dealt with such steps.

The formation of the Iberian bloc is of equal importance to the French problem. At all times important on account of its geographical position, the peninsula has assumed added importance in view of the Anglo-American landings in North Africa. At once it has found itself in the very center of the war. Thus its every move has been a momentous event for all the belligerents. Now, not only have the Anglo-American forces been stopped on the Tunisian line but, forced to retreat under the Axis counter-offensive, they are likely to fall into extreme danger. The unscrupulous United States and Britain in their desperation may resort to any action.

It is a matter for congratulation not only for Spain and Portugal but for the whole course of the war that the two countries unhesitatingly have concluded such a bloc for the defense of the Iberian Peninsula.

Propaganda—Effective and Futile

TOKYO SHIMBUN.—The United States is a nation noted for ballyhoo propaganda. It all depends on how much advertisement he gets whether a president is elected or not. This shows the inferior state of political culture among the American people but at the same time it is most fortunate for their politicians, who have utilized this national defect to blind the people.

The American people have riveted their thoughts and aspiration solely on prosperous living in the fair name of liberalism and eulogized only such politics as would bring them prosperous living. Such a thing as the nature of politics is a problem that they have never even given thought to. They have simply danced to the tune set by their politicians. Thus it is that even when their liberalistic government is turning dictatorial, they are giving little heed to such an essential change in the nature of the political forces directing them.

Politically better-educated than the Americans, the British are clearly casting eyes of contempt on the United States. Outwardly bowing their heads before the material resources of America, which they need to conduct the war, they no doubt are despising at heart the lack of political understanding on the part of Americans. The conflict between the United States and Britain over the Darlan puppet regime clearly manifests the undercurrent of such contempt on the part of the British toward the conceited United States.

The United States has used its own defeats on all fronts, especially the Pearl Harbor disaster, to spread the feeling of hatred for Nippon among the American people. It appears that American politicians are trying to work the same magic on the rest of the world.

The falsity of American propaganda is such that even its ally, with whom it must share its fate, thick or thin, must find it necessary to refute. Britain is laughing up its sleeve that the United States is naive enough to think that the magic it can work on its own people can be worked on other more sophisticated peoples.

Nippon Units Take Stronghold of Red In Hupeh Operation

(Continued From Page 1)

ing in a decisive defeat for the 18th Chinese Communist Army.

The Imperial Forces then advanced toward the Linhsien and Linchin plateaus, reducing the stronghold of the 24th Army units in the Hopeh and Chahar districts. In the latter drives more than 5,000 prisoners were taken, while the enemy left 10,000 dead on the battlefield.

At the same time the 18th Army under General Li Hsien-chou was destroyed in fierce fighting along the Kwo River in southern Honan Province.

DEVELOPING P.I. FORESTS

Control Association Taking Steps to Meet Big Lumber Demand

Domei

MANILA, December 20.—Under the guidance of the Japanese Military Administration, the Philippine Lumber Control Association is busily engaged in developing the forest area on Luzon and other islands in view of the fact that the demand for lumber is increasing of late as the construction of buildings, vessels, bridges and others is in full swing.

On Luzon Island, development work is currently under way in Bataan Peninsula, Camarines Norte, the northern part of Tayabas and a part of Laguna. On Mindanao Island, forests adjacent to Davao are being developed.

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SOVIET RELIEF SOCIETY REVEALS WAR CASUALTIES

Says More Soldiers Wounded in Present Battle Than in Last World Conflict

By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Japan Times Advertiser)

BUENOS AIRES, December 20.—Ninety-five per cent of Soviet soldiers wounded in battlefields are injured by gun shells in the present European War, while in the last World War the rate was only 50 per cent, it was revealed by the voluminous report made on the military medical situation of the Soviet army by the Soviet War Relief Society in the United States.

Those who are wounded in limbs are most numerous, followed by those who had their heads smashed.

It is also revealed that the Soviet military authorities are giving special attention in saving wounded soldiers from battlefields under fire, and for this dangerous and strenuous task young nurses are detailed. Upon being given first-aid treatment at the field stations, the wounded soldiers are carried by ambulance airplanes piloted by women aviators to rear hospitals.

U.S. SEEKS PRICE CONTROL

Resignation of Henderson Causes Weakness in Farming Market

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 21.—With the resignation of Leon Henderson, United States Price Control Chief, the question of the prices of agricultural products is now being very seriously discussed.

Senator James M. Mead, who is close to President Roosevelt, spoke of the Government attitude to this question as follows today.

"Measures for adjusting the prices of agricultural products and for attaining increased production in foodstuffs through proper supply of labor and material are to be shortly adopted by officials concerned. By the enforcement of these means, the agricultural situation will be greatly improved."

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CHINA'S LEADER VISITS PREMIER WITH HIS SUITE

Spends Quiet Day; Arises Early, Meets Chinese Cadets In Morning

VISIT TO PALACE TODAY

Wang Also Attends Luncheon In His Honor Tendered By Minister Aoki

With a formal meeting between His Majesty the Emperor and President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of the Republic of China, scheduled for today, President Wang limited his activities Monday afternoon to calling upon Premier General Hideki Tojo at the latter's official residence.

President Wang was accompanied by Dr. Chu Min-yi, Foreign Minister, and Chou Fo-hai, Vice-President of the Executive Yuan and concurrently Minister of Finance, and other members of his suite.

At noon, he was tendered a luncheon by Kazuo Aoki, Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs, at the latter's official residence in Kouncho, Mita, Shiba-ku.

The luncheon also was attended by Dr. Hsu Liang, Chinese Ambassador to Tokyo, as well as members of President Wang's suite including Dr. Chu Min-yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mei Su-ping, Minister of Publicity, General Hsiao Chu-hsuan, Chairman of the Supreme Military Council.

The Japanese dignitaries at the luncheon were Sotaro Ishiwata, Economic Adviser to the National Government of China, Kumaichi Yamamoto, Vice-Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs, and bureau chiefs of the Ministry of Greater East Asiatic Affairs.

It is recalled that Mr. Aoki was closely associated with President Wang when he formerly served as economic adviser to the Nanking Government, the post which Minister Aoki held until he was appointed Minister of State without Portfolio in the Tojo Cabinet.

After spending a quiet evening at the Daitoa Geihin Kan or Greater East Asia Guest Hall in Hiroo-cho, Azabu-ku, Mr. Wang arose early yesterday morning, dressed and took a stroll about the frost-covered lawn before retiring to his room again where he seated himself comfortably and picked up his writing brush to devote his leisurely morning hours in calligraphy, his favorite pastime.

At 10 o'clock, the Chinese President received his visitors, who were young Chinese cadets studying at the Military Academy here. They were accompanied by Major-General Wang Wei-fan, Chinese Military Attache. The cadets were deeply impressed by Mr. Wang's warm reception and hospitality. Following a short conversation, he smilingly posed with them for a correspondent of the Central Press of China.

After his visitors had taken leave, the Chinese President repaired to his room and resumed his calligraphy, then spent the remainder of the morning affably chatting with members of his party.

GENERAL HO TO BE SENT TO INDIA SOON BY CHIANG

His Visit Is Admission Chungking Troops Are Regarded as Nuisance by British

Domei

NANKING, December 19.—Reports have been received that General Ho Ying-Chin, War Minister of Chungking, acting under orders from Chiang Kai-shek, will visit India, accompanied by General Stillwell.

It is said that his object in India is to inspect the recent aspects of the defeated Chungking troops which have retreated from Burma, make fresh plans for the supply of material to the Chungking troops and establish means of contact with Kunming and vicinity.

His visit is an admission that the Chungking troops are regarded by the British as a nuisance, and that the problem of military supplies is a serious one.

Arrives in Madrid

Domei

MADRID, December 19.—Duke of Alba, Spanish Ambassador to London, arrived here at noon today by air via Lisbon.

Premier Fetes Pact Anniversary

Premier General Hideki Tojo is seen above addressing a large audience of 3,000, including Thai Ambassador Nai Direck Jaiyanama, Foreign Minister Masayuki Tani, Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs Kazuo Aoki, and Admiral Sankichi Takahashi, President of the Greater East Asia League, at the Toho Theater Monday on the occasion of the first anniversary of the signing of the Nippon-Thai Offensive and Defensive Alliance. After re-emphasizing the significance of the historical Treaty, Premier Tojo felicitated both nations in the warmest of terms.

NIPPON-THAI TREATY ANNIVERSARY FETED

Ambassador Jaiyanama Receives Premier Tojo at Embassy—Many Functions Held

(Premier's Speech on Page 2)

The first anniversary of the Japan-Thailand Offensive and Defensive Alliance was fittingly celebrated in Tokyo Monday with Premier General Hideki Tojo's personal visit to the Thai Embassy in the morning, a felicitation program at the Toho Theater in the afternoon, a celebration banquet at the official residence of the Foreign Minister and exchange of radio messages of congratulations between Japan and Thailand in the evening.

Premier Tojo, accompanied by his private secretary, called on Thai Ambassador Nai Direck Jaiyanama at the Thai Embassy at 9:15 a.m. Monday to pay the nation's respect on this auspicious occasion. He was received by Thai Ambassador Nai Direck Jaiyanama and other members of the Thai Embassy in full dress-uniforms in the reception hall. After spending approximately 30 minutes exchanging words of felicitations and recalling the events of the past one year subsequent to the signing of the memorable pact, Premier Tojo left the Thai Embassy at 9:40 a.m.

Big Rally Held

From 1 p.m., a felicitation program was held at the Toho Theater under the auspices of the Japan-Thai Society, the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Greater East Asiatic Affairs, the Tokyo Prefectural and Municipal Governments, the Imperial Rule Assistance Association and the Koa Domei (Greater East Asia League).

Approximately 3,000 well-wishers attended the function. Among them were important dignitaries including Premier Tojo, Thai Ambassador Nai Direck Jaiyanama, Foreign Minister Masayuki Tani, Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs Kazuo Aoki and Admiral Sankichi Takahashi, President of the Koa Domei.

The formal part of the program was opened by Prince Yorisada Tokugawa, Vice-President of the Japan-Thai Society. Following Prince Tokugawa, Premier Tojo, on behalf of the Japanese nation, delivered a speech of congratulation commemorating the signing of the Joint Alliance between the two countries.

Congratulatory messages dispatched by Premier Marshal Luang Pibul Songgram and Foreign Minister Nai Vichitra Vadhakarn, translated into Japanese, were read by a proxy, while Ambassador Nai Direk Jaiyanama representing Thailand spoke words of congratulation. The crowd was led in three Banzai by Lieutenant-General Kisaburo Ando, Vice-President of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

The entertainment part of the program included sacred music and dances, flute recitations, newsreels,

(Continued on Page 2)

Bangkok Chinese Fete Songgram on Occasion Of Pact Anniversary

Domei

BANGKOK, December 21.—Representatives of Chinese residents in Thailand this morning visited Premier Field Marshal Luang Pibul Songgram at his official residence to convey their felicitations on the occasion of the first anniversary of the signing of the Nippon-Thailand Offensive and Defensive Alliance. During the course of the courtesy call with the Thai Premier, the Chinese representatives stressed firm and strong resolve and determination of the Chinese in Thailand to extend whole-hearted cooperation to the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia. Later, the Chinese representatives visited Teiji Tsubokami, Nippon Ambassador to Thailand, at the Nippon Embassy and expressed their resolve to leave no stone unturned for the construction of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

BUSINESS FIRMS IN CHINA SHOW MARKED PROGRESS

Affiliated Concerns Reveal ¥11,216,000 Profit in Half Year Term

Domei

SHANGHAI, December 20.—Reflecting the steady progress of the rehabilitation work in new-born China, business conditions of all the national policy companies, affiliated with the Central China Promotion Company, have been reported satisfactory, despite the wartime situation, it was revealed here today.

Total receipts of 14 companies and one guild, during the first half of the present business year, April to September, amounted to ¥166,185,000 against ¥154,969,000 of total outlays. This represents a net profit amounting to ¥11,216,000.

During the early part of the period under review, it was intimated, business of the various companies was affected to some extent by the situation rising from the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. During the latter part, however, business conditions steadily improved along with the progress of the peace-intensifying campaign launched by the National Government under the Presidency of Wang Ching-wei.

According to those concerned with the said companies, major factors contributing to satisfactory business conditions of the companies include the institution of model peace zones, the advance of the new legal tender, and the successful reorganization of the economic structure of Central China.

U.S. Merchantman Sunk

Domei

LISBON, December 19.—An American merchantman of the 12,000-ton class was sunk by a torpedo hit off Flores in the Azores Islands, according to a dispatch received here.

SONGGRAM CABLES MESSAGES TO JAPAN

Sends Greetings to Premier Tojo and Konoye on Nippon-Thai Pact Anniversary

Domei

BANGKOK, December 21.—On the occasion of the first anniversary of the Nippon-Thai Offensive and Defensive Alliance, Marshal Luang Pibul Songgram dispatched the following telegrams to Premier General Hideki Tojo and Prince Fumimaro Konoye, President of the Nippon-Thailand Society.

The message to Premier Tojo reads as follows:

"I have received Your Excellency's congratulatory message on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Nippon-Thai Alliance and I now take the honor of expressing my deepest gratitude.

"I have the fullest confidence that Your Excellency's warm congratulation will make a deep impression in the hearts of the Thai people.

"The vital significance of the Nippon-Thai Alliance lies in the binding of the two countries towards realizing the mutual aims of the Greater East Asia War through mutual cooperation.

"In short, this Alliance has placed our traditional friendship on a firm foundation arising from a mutual recognition of each other's sovereignty and independence.

"'The wishes which our two countries thus expressed a year ago have now come to be justly realized.

"I fervently hope that the great fruits gained in the past one year by grace of Imperial Benevolence will be repeated until eternal peace and prosperity of the Asiatic continent are materialized."

The message to Prince Konoye said:

"On the occasion of this memorable day, commemorating the first anniversary of the signing of the Nippon-Thai Alliance, I am greatly honored, on behalf of the Thai people, that the Thai Government has the pleasure of expressing the deepest felicitation to you and members of your Society.

"The mutual efforts of Nippon and Thailand in the past one year have increasingly strengthened the friendly relations between the two countries.

"I am fully confident that the Alliance and the friendly cooperation of our two countries will gain final victory for us."

Cables Felicitations

Firm and immutable resolve and determination to prosecute the War of Greater East Asia to a final victory through the whole-hearted cooperation between Japan and Thailand was stressed by Premier Hideki Tojo in his message cabled to Premier Luang Pibul Songgram on Monday on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Japan-Thailand Offensive-Defensive Alliance.

Premier Tojo's message reads as

(Continued on Page 2)

JAPANESE-THAILAND CULTURAL AGREEMENT PUT INTO OPERATION

All Thailand Celebrates First Anniversary Of Alliance

EXCHANGE GREETINGS

Impressive Ceremony Is Held Before Famed Emerald Buddha of Bangkok

Domei

BANGKOK, December 21.—In commemoration of the first anniversary of the conclusion of the Nippon-Thailand Offensive and Defensive Alliance, various functions were held throughout Thailand today, high-lighted by an impressive ceremony held before the famed Emerald Buddha with the attendance of prominent Thai official and Japanese diplomats. Every house throughout Thailand hoisted the Japanese and Thai flags in commemoration of the occasion.

Before the sacred image of Buddha, Premier Luang Pibul Songgram and Japanese Ambassador Teiji Tsubokami exchanged congratulatory messages in which they pledged further united efforts for the successful consummation of the War of Greater East Asia and the establishment of the East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

Premier Stresses Ties

The Thai Premier declared, "The importance of the alliance lies in consolidating the inseparable relations of the two nations in the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia, through close cooperation manifested in the political, economic and military fields, thus strengthening the firm friendship which is based on mutual respect for the independence and sovereignty of the two powers."

He added, "The prayers of a year ago have borne fruit and the troops of the two countries have won glorious victories. The cooperation shown between the two governments and the two peoples is a matter for hearty congratulations. The results achieved in the past one year are tremendous, and I am convinced that our efforts for the welfare and happiness of the Asiatic races will be crowned with success. I pray that the great successes won by us in the past year by the grace of the holy Emerald Buddha will be continued in the future for the sake of the everlasting peace and glory of Asia."

In responding to the Premier's speech, Ambassador Tsubokami declared, "Japan is satisfied that cooperation between the two countries has been carried out to the utmost and every article in the alliance has been fully observed."

Reviewing the brilliant achievements of the Japanese Forces during the past twelve months, the Ambassador stated, "The enemy has been wiped out of East Asia, and the task of establishing the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere has entered the constructive stage."

Recalling the signing of the alliance pact before the same Emerald Buddha just a year ago today, Ambassador Tsubokami said, "At that time, I prayed for the attainment of final victory and for the establishment of justice in the world. We Japanese are always willing to face death for the sake of justice and it is our firm conviction that our war aims are just and that the ultimate victory is ours because our cause is justice."

In conclusion, Ambassador Tsubokami voiced his sure belief that "we shall be able to offer reports of even greater victories to the image of Buddha when we meet for the second anniversary of the Alliance next year."

Following the ceremony, Premier Pibul Songgram was host to a number of Japanese officials and Thai notables at an afternoon garden party at his official residence, while in the evening the Japanese diplomats were given a banquet by Foreign Minister Vichitr Vadakarn.

Songgram Reaffirms Unity

Domei

BANGKOK, December 21.—Premier and concurrently National

(Continued on Page 2)

TEXT OF AGREEMENT

Announcement of the Board of Information concerning the exchange of ratifications of the Japanese-Thai Cultural Agreement issued Monday afternoon follows:

The Cultural Agreement between Japan and Thailand which was signed at Tokyo on October 28, this year, by the Foreign Minister, Mr. Masayuki Tani, and the Thai Ambassador to Japan, Mr. Direck Jaiyanama, was ratified by Japan and Thailand respectively and the exchange of ratifications thereof took place in Bangkok today, December 21, between the Japanese Ambassador to Thailand, Mr. Teiji Tsubokami, and the Thai Foreign Minister, Mr. Vichitra Vichitravadhakarn, as a result of which the Agreement went into effect today.

The full text of the Agreement is as follows:

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan
and
His Majesty the King of Thailand,

being desirous of endeavouring to contribute to the advancement of the culture of East Asia, and at the same time of strengthening further the bond of friendship so happily existing between the two countries by promoting more and more the cultural relations between the two countries, with mutual respect for the intrinsic features of the culture of their respective countries and in close collaboration, have resolved to conclude a Cultural Agreement for that purpose, and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries:

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan:
Masayuki Tani, Minister for Foreign Affairs;
His Majesty the King of Thailand:
Direck Jaiyanama, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand to Japan;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective Full Powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE 1

The High Contracting Parties shall endeavour to deepen mutual knowledge and understanding between the two countries by consolidating the foundation of the cultural relations between them, and shall collaborate most closely for this purpose in all cultural fields.

ARTICLE 2.

The High Contracting Parties shall from time to time convene cultural conferences for the purpose of deliberation on the progress and development of the culture of the two countries and shall endeavour to extend assistance to conferences organised for the said purpose.

ARTICLE 3.

The High Contracting Parties shall endeavour to establish, maintain and develop institutions contributing to the promotion of the cultural relations between the two countries and shall mutually afford every possible facility in respect thereof.

The institutions referred to in the preceding paragraph shall include scientific and other organisations, institutes, libraries, museums, educational institutions and sanitary institutions for charitable purpose.

ARTICLE 4.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall give particular consideration to the establishment, maintenance and development in the universities of its country, of chairs on the culture of the other.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall give particular consideration to the teaching in various appropriate educational institutions of its country, of the language of the other.

The High Contracting Parties shall give particular consideration to the periodical exchange, the sending or inviting of professors, scholars and specialists, for the purpose of conducting courses of delivering lectures on the culture of the two countries.

The High Contracting Parties shall mutually afford every possible facility for the execution of the provisions of the preceding three paragraphs.

ARTICLE 5.

The High Contracting Parties shall by mutual accord periodically exchange, or shall send or invite research workers, students and pupils, for the purpose of studying the culture of the two countries.

The High Contracting Parties shall endeavour to exchange, send or invite apprentice-students and short-term students.

The High Contracting Parties shall mutually afford every possible facility for the execution of the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs and shall give consideration to the establishment of scholarship funds.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall afford similar facilities to scholars and specialists of the other coming for the purpose of studying the culture of its own country.

ARTICLE 6.

The High Contracting Parties shall encourage the activities of authors, artists and religionists, who they deem contributory to the promotion of cultural relations between the two countries, and shall endeavour to exchange, send or invite such persons.

The High Contracting Parties shall encourage the performance of plays, dances and music, which they deem contributory to the promotion of the cultural relations between the two countries, and shall endeavour to exchange, send or invite individuals or parties engaged in these pursuits.

ARTICLE 7.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall endeavor to supply to the other, in as large quantities and as frequently as possible, with publications, cinematographic films, lantern-slides, photographs, gramophone records and musical scores of its country which it deems contributory to the promotion of mutual knowledge and understanding between the two countries; and the other shall give special consideration as to their preservation, distribution, presentation and exhibition, so that these may be utilized effectively in its country.

The High Contracting Parties shall exchange lists of publications and works of art of each country deemed to be worthy of being introduced to the other and shall endeavour to introduce and diffuse them by appropriate means.

The High Contracting Parties shall endeavour to extend the necessary good offices and assistance for the translation and reproduction of the above-mentioned publications and works of art.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall endeavour to enrich the collection of books and exhibits concerning the other, in libraries and museums in its country, and shall afford every possible facility to the nationals of the other in regard to the utilization of these institutions.

ARTICLE 8.

The High Contracting Parties shall from time to time organise exhibitions for the purpose of promoting mutual knowledge and understanding of the sciences, fine arts and industrial arts of the two countries and shall endeavour to extend the necessary good offices and assistance in organising exhibitions held for such a purpose.

ARTICLE 9.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall have the radio organisations of its country make periodical broadcasts to the other, and shall have them relay periodical broadcasts from the other.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall from time to time have the radio organisations of its country broadcast lectures, entertainments and music concerning the culture of the other.

ARTICLE 10.

The High Contracting Parties shall endeavour to exchange, send or invite parties of youth and juveniles and athletes and athletic teams in order to promote amicable intercourse between their nationals.

The High Contracting Parties shall endeavour to exchange, send or invite sight-seeing parties and educational-tour parties in order to promote the mutual knowledge and understanding of the two countries.

The High Contracting Parties shall mutually afford every possible facility for the execution of the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs.

ARTICLE 11.

The High Contracting Parties shall endeavour to establish a Cul-

(Continued on Page 2)

Ratifications Are Exchanged in Bangkok Between 2 Nations

EFFECTIVE MONDAY

Imperial Sanction Was Given December 2; Sent to Privy Council November 18

The Imperial sanction having been granted on December 2, the Nippon-Thailand Cultural Agreement was ratified and went into effect on Monday, the first anniversary of the signing of the Nippon-Thailand Joint Offensive and Defensive Alliance, it was announced by the Board of Information Monday afternoon.

With political and military ties between Nippon and Thailand already on a firm basis, the cultural agreement was desired and designed by the officials of both nations to solidify further the relations between the two nations. The agreement itself was completed and signed by Foreign Minister Masayuki Tani and Thai Ambassador Nai Direk Jaiyanama at the Foreign Minister's official residence on October 28. It was submitted to a general meeting of the Privy Council on November 18 and granted the Imperial sanction on December 2.

Bearing the Imperial sanction, Consul Saburo Minowa of the Foreign Office flew to Bangkok and on the memorable first anniversary of the signing of the Nippon-Thailand Joint Offensive and Defensive Alliance, the cultural agreement was formally ratified by Ambassador Teiji Tsubokami and Thai Foreign Minister Vichitra Vadhakarn.

Being the first of such agreements to be created in the Greater East Asiatic sphere and in view of the significance it holds in the cultural construction of Greater East Asia the pact is being regarded with profound interest and is expected to bring about many favorable results. Compared to similar treaties existing between Nippon and Germany, Nippon and Italy, Nippon and Hungary and others, the agreement between Nippon and Thailand is notable in that concrete rules and regulations have been set up in detail covering numerous fields.

When the details of the agreement are put into effect the people of Nippon and Thailand will understand each other better through each other's culture. Spiritually, too, Thailand will understand Nippon more fully, enabling both nations to set up a structure wherein both will truly share the other's sorrows and joys.

Based on the principle of general cultural cooperation, the agreement specifies, among other things, the establishment and maintenance of cultural facilities and the exchange of personnel. It deals with publications, motion pictures, records, with all products of art, the drama, the dance, music, broadcasting and everything in the cultural field. What should be noted especially is the careful attention shown to religion, sanitation and the youth movement. Such an agreement, so positive and covering so much, has never yet been established anywhere.

For the carrying out of the details of the agreement, coordination councils with Nippon and Thai members will be established in Tokyo and Bangkok. The establishment of such organs is specified in Article 12 of the cultural agreement. For the present, Nippon will have a budget of ¥2,700,000 to ¥2,800,000 for the next fiscal year and will begin the exchange of students, teaching of the national language, introduction of motion pictures and photographs, broadcasting and other function.

Preparations are already under way for the opening of the Nippon Culture Building in Bangkok with Ken Yanagizawa, noted as a diplomat and writer, already having assumed his post as chief of the center. The establishment will begin in the near future to operate positively as the center of cultural activity.

NEW ORDER MOVES SWIFTLY IN SOUTH

Participants Voice Admiration At Round-Table Conference in Saigon

Domei

SAIGON, December 20.—Voicing admiration over the speedy Japanese military operations and the rapid reconstruction subsequently carried out, Dr. Thatch, medical practitioner here, declared during a round-table conference held here recently that the "new order which would have been impossible for us to create, no matter how many centuries we tried, has been created within the past year."

The round-table discussion were presided over by Mr. Dinh Zuan Tieu, prominent local Annamese journalist, and was attended by Mr. Bua Kinh, lawyer attached to the Court of Appeals of Saigon, Dr. Thatch and Mr. Bua Due, another journalist.

No time Lost

Mr. Kinh pointed out that no time was lost after scoring these victories in commencing reconstruction work. Progress of reconstruction by the Japanese, he added, could be seen clearly through press reports and newsreels.

The lawyer pointed out that in more than 10 of the leading cities in Java, mayors have been elected from among the local inhabitants. He added that he was highly pleased to see such concrete evidence of common prosperity in Greater East Asia.

When the topic turned toward the subject of Greater East Asia for the East Asiatics, unanimous confidence was expressed that the day is not far off when, under the able guidance of Japan, all East Asiatic races will form a large family of co-prosperity despite differences in languages, customs and religion.

Dr. Thatch pointed out that since Japan started its campaign to destroy Anglo-American imperialism in Greater East Asia, the French Indo-China authorities have changed their attitude toward the people.

At this point, Mr. Bua Kinh remarked, "However, more important than the change in French attitude is the fact that Japan's campaign has brought about a fundamental change in French attitude is the fact that Japan's campaign has brought about a fundamental change in our psychology by fostering among us the idea that Greater East Asia belongs to the Asiatics."

He added, "Before the war, Asia was the Asia of the United States, Great Britain or France. The East Asiatic nations lived without that self-consciousness. Now that Japan has driven out Anglo-American imperialism from this part of the world, we have realized the oneness of Asia. I visualize now the division of the world into three great blocs, namely Asia, Europe and America."

To a question of whether it would not be difficult to bring the Philippines, Malai, Borneo and Java, with their different races and cultures, into the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, Dr. Thatch declared, "There can be no question of its feasibility.

Religion Is Common

"In the first place, many different races and distantly related peoples are linked by a common religion, just as Annam is united with Burma through Buddhism.

"In the second place, the ideal of a Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere would be a factor sufficient to organize the different races into a harmonious whole.

"In this respect," Dr. Thatch continued, "Japan affords an excellent example for East Asia. The Japanese people believe in a variety of religions, including Shintoism, Buddhism and Christianity, yet this does not prevent Japan from being the world's best organized nation since the people are united by loyalty.

"Differences in religious creed, race or culture would be no hindrance if the ideal of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere is adhered to and respected by all peoples in East Asia."

Return of Peace and Order

Dr. Thatch continued, "Since the advance of the Japanese Forces to Northern and Southern French Indo-China, particularly during this one year, French Indo-China has completely restored its peace and order. One of the evidences of the return of peace and order was the complete removal of blackout restrictions in French Indo-China as from April 1.

"We wondered how it was possible for French Indo-China, which stretches out far into the Southwestern Pacific, to be properly defended without blackout restrictions when fighting was still going on in all other places surrounding French Indo-China.

"Since the removal of the blackout restrictions we heard not a sound of air raid sirens which led us to totally and categorically believe and confide in the announcements made by the Imperial Headquarters.

"It was because of such experiences that we also placed no trust in the radio news of Anglo-American sources boasting of their victories. We now feel such Anglo-American announcements to be utterly preposterous.

"I dare say that successive Japanese victories in the Southwestern Pacific have been embodied in the removal of blackout restrictions here. The removal of restrictions certainly has embodied the final victory of Japan in the present war against the United States and Britain.

"The very fact that the blackout restrictions were removed completely throughout French Indo-China, served to stabilize and ease the public mind in this country more than one propaganda."

After pointing out that French Indo-China already has returned to normalcy, Dr. Thatch significantly declared, "I am convinced that Japan's mission in this war is not the colonization of East Asia, which was the policy of both Great Britain and the United States, but the establishment of a new Asia for the Asiatics.

Turning to the question of education, Mr. Bua Due, prominent local journalist, asserted that the reason Japan has become a strong nation is because its literacy standard is far above the average. In 70 years, he pointed out, Japan has rapidly advanced in the field of education by establishing schools one after another.

Pointing to the high rate of illiteracy in French Indo-China, Mr. Bua Due declared that in the whole of French Indo-China there are only one university, four high schools, 18 intermediate high schools, 2,486 ordinary primary schools and 443 higher primary schools.

Concluding the round-table conference, Mr. Dinh Zuan Tieu declared, "A new Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere can be realized only through the full collaboration of all Asiatic peoples."

Affects Chinese Landlords

SHANGHAI.—Chinese land owners whose property is registered with enemy consular authorities thus assuming an enemy character are making applications with the Nipponese authorities for exemption from the regulation laid down requiring those property holders who are not enemy nationals but whose property is enemy registered, to prove their ownership.

PREMIER'S ADDRESS

Premier General Hideki Tojo's address at the celebration rally held at the Toho Theater on Monday is as follows:

"Today marks the first anniversary of the conclusion of the Japan-Thai Treaty of Offensive and Defensive Alliance.

"It is a day which saw the beginning of an epoch-making period in the relationship between Japan and Thailand. It is a day memorable to us who are in the midst of the War of Greater East Asia.

"I recall that when the Empire rose with resolution against America and Britain on December 8 last year, Thailand was quick to cooperate with the Imperial Forces, making a great contribution to their successful operations in the opening phase of the war.

"A year ago today Japan and Thailand concluded an offensive and defensive alliance. It bound Japan and Thailand to collaborate in the military, political, and economic fields. It was a declaration to the wide world of the determination of the two countries to work together and not to lay down their arms until final victory is theirs in the war against America and Britain.

"From that great day Japan and Thailand were locked in resolution to share in each other's joys and sorrows and to get on together and die together.

"Not long before it forged the closest ties of cooperation with Japan that Thailand entered the war on Japan's side.

"Thailand was surrounded by international circumstances of great difficulty. It refused to allow itself to be cowed by the tremendous pressure brought by America and Britain to bear upon it. It knew better than being influenced by American and British maneuverings. It did not error in judging the trend of world events. It had a good knowledge of the true intentions of Japan. Thus came its resolute decision to share its lot with Japan.

"My thoughts turn to Thailand on that great day when it definitely decided to be at Japan's side. I find my mind filled with gratitude to Premier Field Marshal Pibul Songgram of Thailand and the Thai people.

"The war we are carrying on is a war to end the old inordinate ambitions of America and Britain and, restore Asia to a condition under which it ought to be, and set up an order grounded on righteousness covering the whole of Asia.

"It is a war, the greatest in history, upon the issue of which the rise or fall of not only the Empire but entire Asia rests. It is a war which we have to win at whatever sacrifices.

"It is a war from which all the countries and races of Greater East Asia, locked in resolution, and acting in a body, are bound to emerge.

"We are flushed with encouragement at the thought of the fact that at this important period in the history of Asia we find the two countries of Japan and Thailand, forming a blood brotherhood, proceeding with the war agreement against their common enemies.

"Japan and Thailand have been maintaining extremely cordial relations for the past several centuries. There has in the interval been no single occasion on which they were in dispute. On this traditional friendship of the two countries rests the pact under which they stand at each other's side in the War of Greater East Asia.

"The Japan-Thai Alliance has further significance. It forms the basis of a great federation embracing all the countries of Greater East Asia. Glorious is the role which is being played by the pact in Greater East Asia.

"The people of Thailand have for a long time been known for their love of independence. They have from olden time maintained their tradition of love of freedom.

"Under extremely difficult conditions Thailand has managed to be a nation in enjoyment of a glorious independent existence in a corner of Asia in possession of pride as a race of Greater East Asia. It is a matter of felicitation not only to the Thai people but also to all the races of Greater East Asia that there is at the head of the Government in Thailand a leader of the convictions of Premier Pibul.

"Under the leadership of Premier Pibul the people of Thailand have extended the power and the prestige of their country. We find them in ever greater resolution to bring the War of Greater East Asia to a successful end and making a greater contribution to the prosperity of Greater East Asia.

"One year has passed since the conclusion of this alliance treaty. During the intervening period the spirit of alliance has been displayed to the fullest extent. Now, Japan and Thailand are bravely heading toward the glory of victory and the rise of whole Asia. The final victory will of course be ours. However, many difficulties must be surmounted to fight this war to a successful conclusion. It goes without saying that the Japanese Empire is a country of faith, a country standing on mutual friendly trust and a country having a keen sense of honor. Japan also is a country endowed with a sense of warm heart. We are determined to fight with faith. I do not doubt that the Thai people understand well the value of Japan based on faith.

"In welcoming the first anniversary of the treaty conclusion, I hope the two allied countries solidify their ties of alliance and mutual help all the more and thereby go straight forward to the attainment of their common objective with an adamantine will."

ALL THAILAND FETES ALLIANCE

(Continued From Page 1)

Defense Minister, Luang Pibul Songgram reaffirmed the close ties of unity between Nippon and Thailand during his address at a tea party commemorating the first anniversary of the Nippon-Thailand Defensive-Offensive Alliance.

"I have sponsored this affair in order to felicitate the first anniversary of the signing of the Nippon-Thailand Offensive and Defensive Alliance as well as to fete the magnificent military achievements of our Allies," the Premier explained.

Indicating that he was overjoyed at being able to speak encouraging words at this commemorative event, Premier Songgram pointed out that German and Italian forces also have gained brilliant results in the European War during the past year.

"Meanwhile, the entire people of Thailand, including myself consider it an honor and glory to be fighting with Nippon to create a new destiny for the world in concert with other Axis countries."

"In East Asia the brave forces of Nippon and Thailand are collaborating intimately as brothers," Premier Songgram continued, adding, "This revelation of unity during the past year indicates that it will remain intact until our ultimate aim of victory is attained."

In conclusion the Premier stated, "I should like to pay my sincere respects to the servicemen now struggling to fulfill vital mission and pray for victory as well as for the progress of Nippon and prosperity of the Nipponese people."

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Nai Vichtra Vichtra Vadhakarn took the occasion to declare in an official message to Foreign Minister Masayuki Tani of Japan. "It is a source of great joy for the two powers to have been able to realize the wishes of their respective peoples and governments to better their mutual understanding and friendly relations as the first year of the signing of the Japan-Thailand Military Alliance is about to pass."

"I would like to take this occasion to express my earnest wish that our determination to gain a mutual victory in the war as well as to achieve peace and prosperity for all the races of Asia will materialize soon by the grace of the Divine Emerald Buddha."

Text of Agreement

(Continued From Page 1)

tural Institute, each in the capital of the other, for the purpose of contributing to the promotion of the cultural relations between the two countries, and shall mutually afford every possible facility to the activities of the said Institutes.

ARTICLE 12.

The High Contracting Parties shall establish a Cultural Working Committee in Tokyo and Bangkok respectively, in order to maintain liaison between the two countries regarding the execution of the provisions of the present Agreement.

The diplomatic authorities of the High Contracting Parties shall decide, by mutual accord, the details concerning the organisations and function of the said Committee.

ARTICLE 13.

The diplomatic authorities of the High Contracting Parties shall decide, by mutual accord, the details concerning the execution of the provisions of the present Agreement.

ARTICLE 14.

The present Agreement shall be ratified and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at Bangkok as soon as possible.

The present Agreement shall be enforced from the date of the exchange of ratifications and shall remain in force for ten years from that date. In case neither of the High Contracting Parties shall have given notice to the other one year prior to the expiration of the said ten-year period of its intention to terminate the present Agreement, it shall continue in force until the expiration of one year from the date on which either Party shall have given such notice.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Agreement and have hereunto affixed their seals.

Done in duplicate, in the Japanese and Thai languages, in Tokyo, this twenty-eighth day of the tenth month in the seventeenth year of Syowa, corresponding to the twenty-eighth day of the tenth month in the two thousand four hundred and eighty-fifth year of the Buddhist Era.

(L.S.) Masayuki Tani
(L.S.) Direck Jaiyanama

Songgram Cables Messages to Japan

(Continued From Page 1)

follows:

"I feel greatly honored to have this opportunity of expressing my profound felicitations to Your Excellency and to the people and fighting services of Thailand on this occasion of the first anniversary of the Japan-Thailand Offensive-Defensive Alliance.

"The foundation for the construction of a Greater East Asia has been thoroughly laid down as a result of signal war victories achieved by the Japanese fighting service during the past one year.

"On this occasion, I wish to express my hearty gratitude for the great cooperation your country has extended to our country. I also wish to express our renewed resolve and determination to crush Britain and the United States through closer collaboration between our two countries.

Simultaneously, Premier Tojo sent a cable of congratulation to the President of the Japan-Thai Society in Bangkok.

Correction Issued

The Board of Information has issued the following correction. The list of members of Mr. Wang Chingwei's party should be read in the following order:

Mr. Chu Min-yi, Minister for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Chou Fo-hai, Vice-President of the Executive Yuan and concurrently Minister of Finance; General Hsiao Chu-hsuan, Chairman of the Supreme Military Council; Mr. Mei Hsu-ping, Minister of Commerce and Industry, and Mr. Lin Pai-sheng, Minister of Publicity.

Today's Press Comments

Tuesday, December 22, 1942

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Translations of other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Japan Times Advertiser.)

Significance of Cultural Agreement

NIPPON SANGYO—The establishment of the cultural agreement between Nippon and Thailand who are cooperating in all fields for the construction of the new East Asia is of great significance in that the two nations will further strengthen their cooperative position. This agreement was signed on October 28, submitted to the Privy Council on November 18, granted Imperial sanction on December 2 and put into effect on December 21.

Immediately upon the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, Thailand grasped the true meaning of the war and entered into an inseparable relationship with our nation. Coming on the first anniversary of the binding of the Offensive and Defensive Alliance, we feel a double happiness at the establishment of the cultural agreement.

This agreement is made up of 14 articles. Although the general trend in this type of agreement is toward simplicity this agreement is very detailed and specific. And it includes clauses concerning religion, a matter never yet included in a cultural pact with any nation. This two points can be said to be its most outstanding characteristics. The agreement contains clauses for the holding of scientific, religious, and artistic meetings and provides for the maintenance and development of cultural facilities, the exchange of students and teachers and the establishment of prize funds, the introduction of the manners and customs of both nations through publications, motion pictures and music and the establishment of organs for the introduction of general culture and the opening of scheduled meetings of the Cultural Coordination Council in Tokyo and Thailand.

With the establishment of the pact students and teachers will be exchanged with Thailand, lectures on the language of Nippon will be held in Thailand, and the exchange of cultural films and broadcasts will be held. Together with the fact that Thailand has already taken measures on its own accord to make the language of Nippon a compulsory course in its schools, the carrying out of these plans can be expected to bring about great results.

The detailed specifications of the pact will make more significant the historic ties between Nippon and Thailand. And especially the religious closeness, with Buddhism acting as the bond, will further bring about a feeling of true friendship.

It is known to everyone that at the time of the recent flood in Thailand the people of our nation contributed all they could to help the people of Thailand. The trust in each other between Nippon and Thailand is growing stronger by the day. By the positive role played by the cultural agreement the spiritual change in the Thai people should be great. The thorough recognition of Nippon by the Thai people in the cultural intercourse will become the spiritual basis necessary for the war and will later bring about a successful revolution in East Asiatic ideology.

Nippon-Thai Treaty Anniversary Feted

(Continued From Page 1)

renditions of Thai music, and others.

From 6 p.m., a celebration banquet was given at the official residence of the Foreign Minister. Premier Tojo and Cabinet Ministers, Thai Ambassador Nai Direck Jaiyanama and other members of the Thai Embassy, participated in this function.

Meanwhile, from 7:30 p.m. radio messages of congratulation were exchanged between Teiji Tsubokami, Japanese Ambassador to Thailand and Nai Direck Jaiyanama, Thai Ambassador to Japan.

Tani Hails Alliance

The gist of Foreign Minister Tani's address follows:

"We greet the first anniversary of the conclusion of the Japan-Thai Offensive and Defensive Alliance while we are triumphants over our common enemies.

"We see the two countries in closer ties of cooperation in the work of constructing the New Order of Greater East Asia, a spectacle which impresses us profoundly.

"Japan and Thailand have for a long time been cooperating on the basis of mutual respect of independence and sovereignty. Following the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia Thailand promptly took steps to facilitate the passage of the Imperial Forces through its territory. It went further, and entered into an offensive and defensive alliance with Japan a year ago today.

"Later, under the provisions of the alliance Thailand in January of this year declared war on America and Britain. At once the country which had made up its mind to share its fortune with Japan had its valiant troops cross the border, in operations against the enemy forces.

"Celebrating the establishment of the Japanese-Thai relations, Thailand was courteous enough to send Lieutenant-General Phya 'Phahol Pholyphayhne Sena, elder statesman, to Japan as Chief of Goodwill Mission, for which Japan returned the courtesy with the sending of Koki Hirota to Thailand as Grand Envoy of the Goodwill Mission.

"To add further to the military, political and economic relationships between Japan and Thailand, the ratifications of the Japanese-Thai Cultural Agreement has been exchanged at Bangkok and it has gone into effect immediately. This is a matter of congratulations indeed. It is imagined that Japan may go through various odds in the future, but the more the ordeal is severe, the stronger will become the bond that unites the two nations."

Moresby Bombed Severely

By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Japan Times Advertiser)

MADRID, December 19.—Port Moresby was exposed to intensive bombings of Japanese Air Units on December 11, according to an announcement made in Washington. As a result of the raid, the naval port in New Guinea was inflicted heavy damages.

ENVOY YOSHIZAWA TO SUBMIT REPORT

Nipponese Ambassador to F.I.C. Slated to Return to Tokyo Toward End of Month

Domei

SAIGON, December 20.—Kenkichi Yoshizawa, Nipponese Ambassador to French Indo-China, will return to Nippon toward the end of this month to report to the home Government the progress so far made in the negotiations for the working economic agreement between Nippon and French Indo-China next year, it was revealed here.

As a result of a series of conversations between Nipponese and French Indo-Chinese representatives, it is understood, the French authorities have concurred with Nippon's proposals.

Consequently, with negotiations expected to continue smoothly, Mr. Yoshizawa will return to Tokyo, leaving details of the negotiations to Shigeru Kuriyama, Secretary-General of the Nippon Ambassadorial Office, Masayuki Yokoyama, adviser, and other officials.

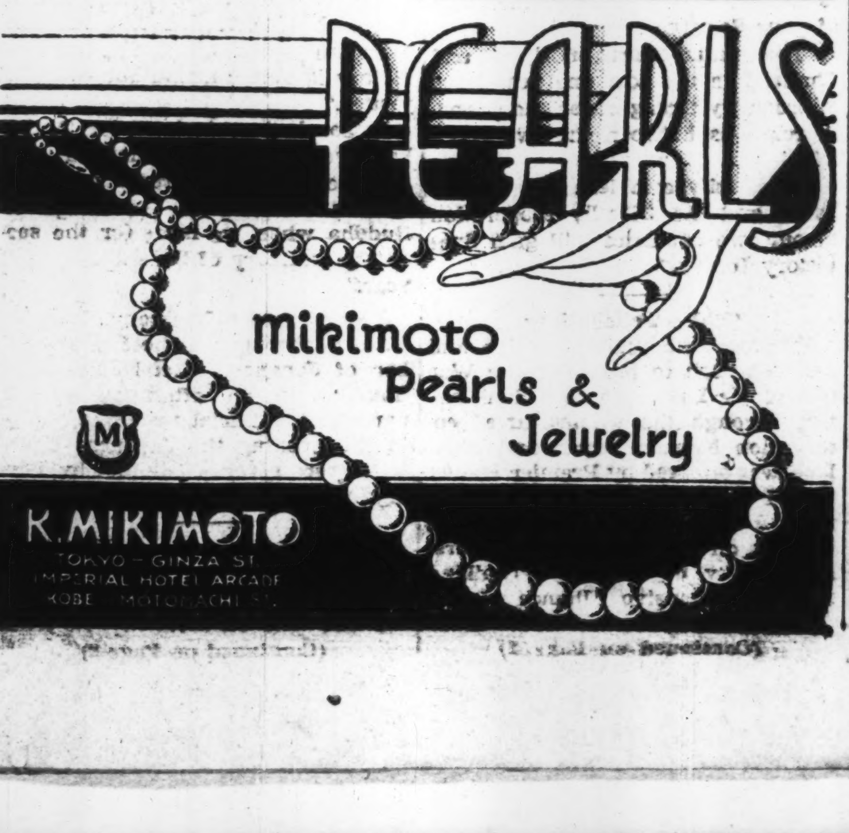
Economic negotiations were started on December 14 between Ambassador Yoshizawa and Vice-Admiral Jean Decoux, Governor-General of French Indo-China, at which time the Ambassador gave a general explanation of Nippon proposals, at the same time expressing Nippon's desire for sincere cooperation.

The Governor-General in turn expressed his desire that the negotiations would come to a successful conclusion in view of the friendly ties and inseparable economic relations existing between the two countries.

ADMINISTRATORS NAMED

The War Ministry on Monday announced the appointment of two new Chief Administrators to the Headquarters of the Japanese Military Administration in the Southern Regions.

The two new Chief Administrators are Tadao Miyata, Director of the Tokyo Mining Inspection Bureau of the Commerce and Industry Ministry and Tokuichi Nishimura, Chief of the Personnel Section of the Taiwan Government-General.


PEARLS
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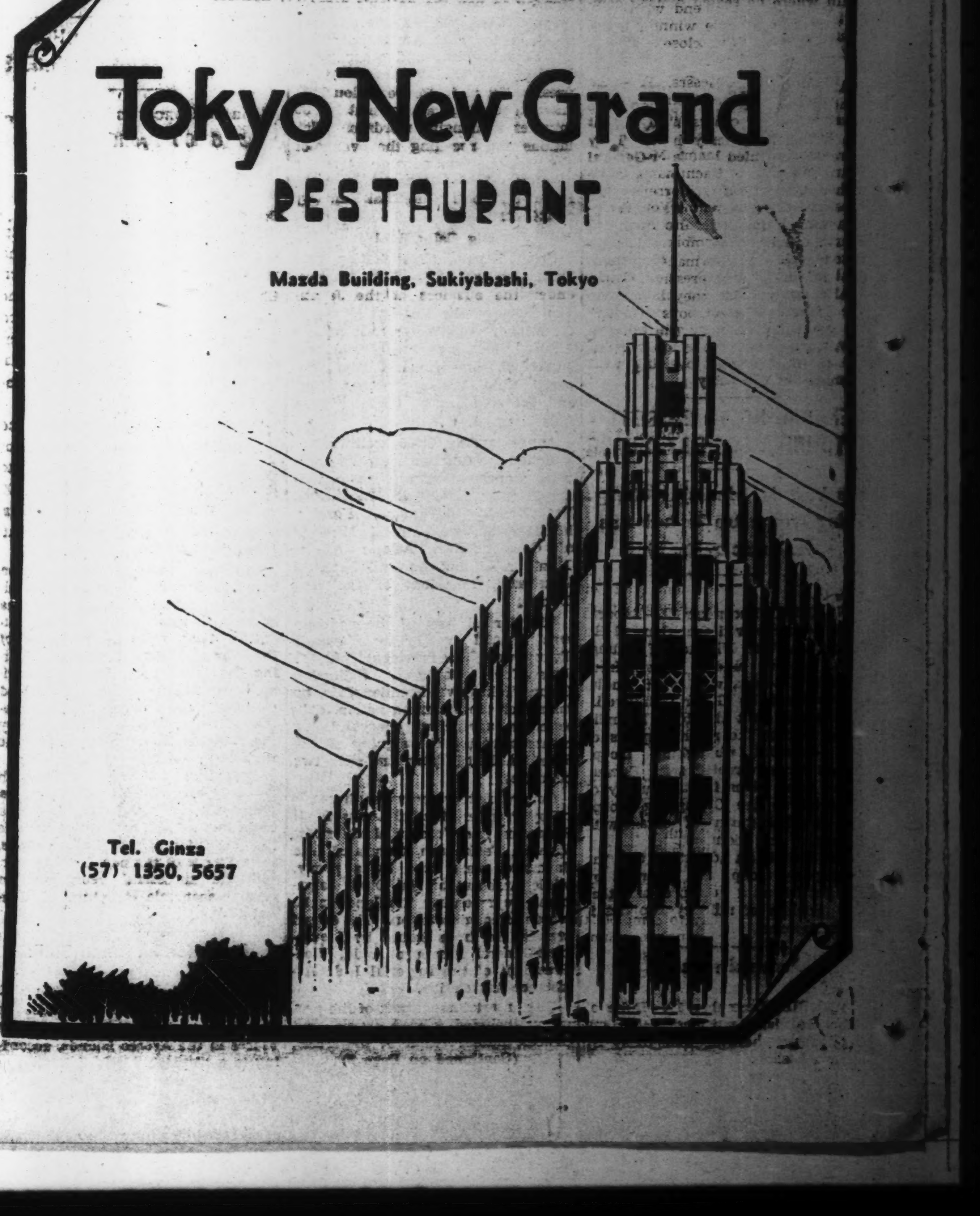
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BUDDHIST INSTITUTE TO BE ESTABLISHED

Research Body Will Study Methods of Disseminating Religion in East Asia

The establishment of a Greater East Asia Buddhism Research Institute has been decided by the International Buddhist Association of Tokyo for the purpose of investigating and studying Buddhism in East Asia, and providing necessary training to disseminate the religion throughout the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. Research workers in the new institute will include Bentetsu Yasunaga, lecturer at Rissho University, and Kanyei Okamoto, staff member of the Tokyo Imperial Museum, who have been recommended by the International Buddhist Association, reports Domei.

With the backing of the Ministry of Greater East Asiatic Affairs and the Board of Information, the new institute will immediately start activities under the following principal programs:

1. Offering to the public courses in Sanskrit, Pali, Hindu, Ceylonese, Burmese, Thai, Annamese Makalan, Tibetan, Mongolian, Chinese, Manchoukuoan and other languages, the history of Buddhism, outline of Buddhism and other subjects.
2. Holding of meetings on Buddhist problems for the benefit of the research workers, and the dispatching of graduates from the institute (after completing the prescribed one year's course) to the various regions in the Co-Prosperity Sphere.

FAST HOCKEY MATCHES PLAYED OFF AT Y.C.A.C.

Keio Shoko Eleven Downs German Seconds, But Firsts Defeat Teidai

Two games of hockey were played on the Y.C. and A.C. field Sunday, the German second team losing a close game to the Keio Shoko eleven by the score of 2 goals to 1 but with the firsts keeping their string of victories intact by taking a 5 to 3 decision from the Teidai University players.

The first game of the morning saw both teams battling on even terms and after a scoreless first half the visitors notched two goals after the interval to take the game. Play was ragged in the first half and the forwards failed to function smoothly with the result that both defenses had little or no work to do.

After both teams failed to score in the first half the visitors took the lead in ten minutes when Ito beat Harriss with a cross shot from the edge of the circle. The home team came through with the equalizer soon afterwards when Mosler netted following a scramble in front of the Keio goal. No further scoring took place until five minutes from the end when Funakoshi drove in the winning counter with a shot from close quarters..

The teams were:

Keio Shoko: Messrs. Kobayashi, Morita, Yokoei, Sakakibara, Mano, Suzuki, Funakoshi, Moriyama, Ito Nagata, Fukuda.

Second Hockey team: Messrs. Harriss, Fehlen, L. Fachtmann, Ackenhausen (Captain), Correns, Bergmann, M. Fachtmann, Von Morgen, Mosler, G. Schuette and Henn.

Referee: Mr. Glombik.

The powerful German first hockey team kept their impressive record of wins intact when they turned back the fighting Teidai boys in a game replete with thrills. The losers put up a fine game and the Germans were fully extended to win. Schuette and Pekrun were the high scorers for their side, each coming through with 2 goals apiece, while Edu Levedag accounted for the other. Sumita was the most outstanding player for the visitors and was responsible for two goals. In defense both Burmester and Levedag played a hard game and for the first time this season were fully extended.

The winners used an effective method of attack in which their wingers played a prominent part with the result that the German defense was sorely tested on occasions. Schuette opened the scoring in five minutes when he snapped up a loose ball in the circle and netted with a hard shot. The visitors tied the score up through left-winger Sumita but another goal by Schuette gave the Germans a 2 to 1 lead at the interval.

In the second half Ashigawa knotted the count again when his first time effort beat Meisinger, but Pekrun came through with a good goal to give his side the lead again. The Germans increased their lead on a beautiful goal by Edu Levedag and Pekrun came through with his second goal of the day to complete the scoring for the winners. Sumita added one more for his side before the game ended to bring up the Teidai total to three.

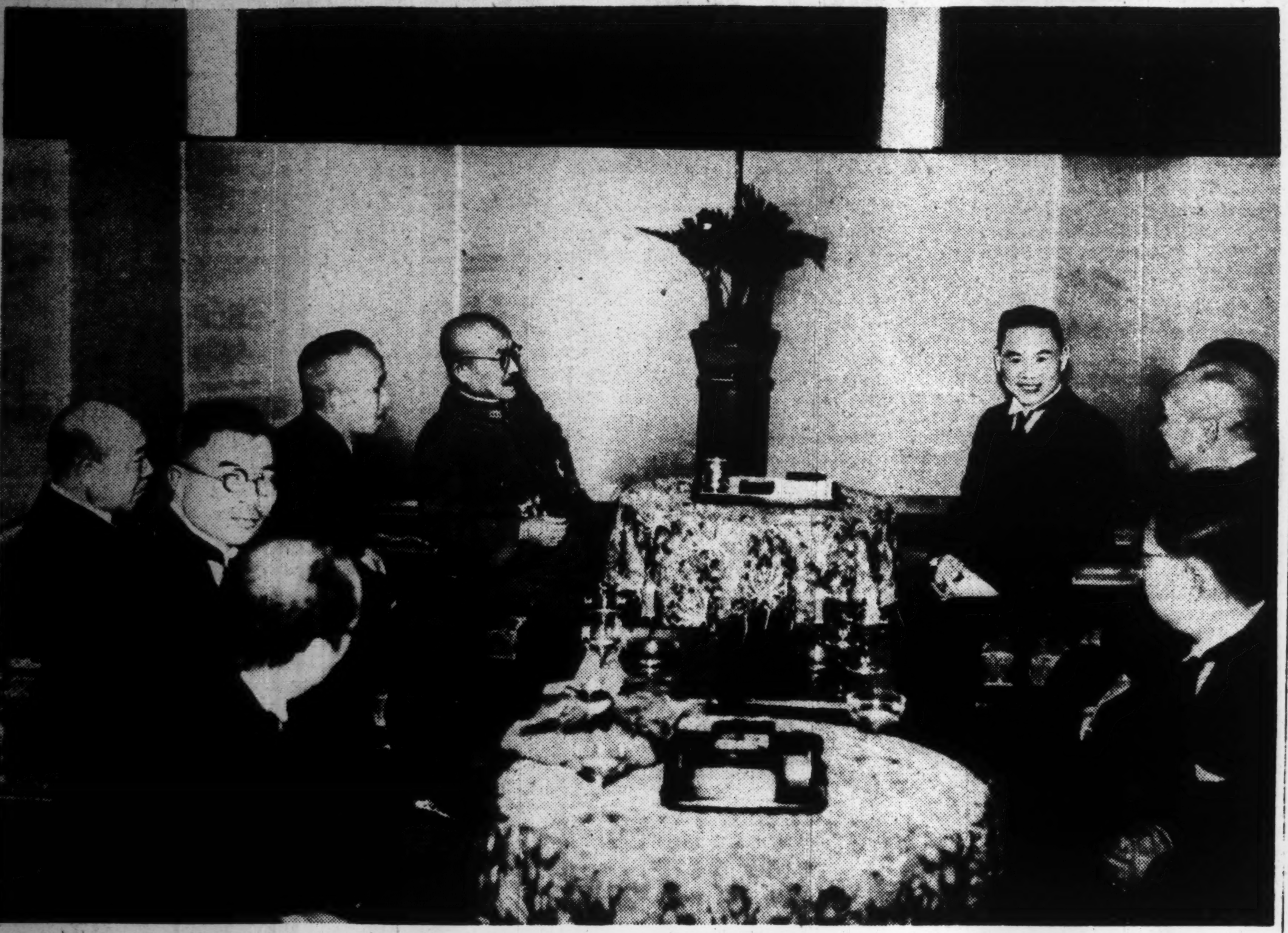
The teams were:

German firsts: Messrs. Meisinger, E. Levedag, Burmester (captain), Fehlen, Dr. Engel, Bellstedt, Schuette, Dohm, Pekrun, Edu Levedag, Piper.

Teidai: Messrs. Amemiya, Nakayama, Matsuura, Kutomo, Hashiguchi, Ueda, Sumita, Yoshida, Nishi, Arikawa, Ashizawa.

Referee: Mr. Glombik,

President Wang Calls on Tojo



China's capable leader met Japan's great wartime Premier on Monday, when President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of China called on Premier General Hideki Tojo at the latter's official residence. President Wang was accompanied by the members of his suite.

CLUB WINS RUGBY TILT

Y.C.A.C. Defeats Yokohama Glass Works Fifteen Sunday

The powerful rugby fifteen of the Yokohama Country and Athletic Club came through with an impressive 35 to 6 victory over the Yokohama Glass Works outfit in a game played on the Negishi field Sunday afternoon. The winners scored four goals, four tries and one penalty goal to the two tries scored by the opposition.

The winners who were playing with two men short lost an additional man when Speringer was injured and retired from the field of play. In spite of this handicap, they played up well and with the forwards in top form. Lavalle, Planas and Harriss were outstanding in attack, while Fehlen and Weiss were the pick of the pack.

The winners opened the scoring early in the game when F. Planas obtained possession following a good bit of work by the pack and fought his way over the line for the first three points of the game. The kick failed. Harriss then took a pass from Planas and picked his way through the defense to touch down by the posts. Schoene converted to give the Clubsters a 8 to 0 lead. Following a quick heel from a set scrum Planas picked up the ball and raced across from the blind side without having hands laid on him. Schoene then came through with a hard run that resulted in another try before Ito replied for the visitors with a try that was unconverted. Halftime found the home players leading by the score of 14 points to 3.

In the second half the home team kept up their powerful attack and the score mounted up rapidly. Planas opened the scoring in this half with a good 25-yard run but the ensuing kick failed. Harriss then came through with his second try which was converted by Planas. Petroff then staged a sensational breakaway and race 50 yards for a spectacular try. Fehlen added the extra points. Another try by Agajan and a penalty kick conversion by Schoene completed the scoring for the Club while Tanaka's brilliant interception resulted in the lone score scored by the visitors.

Wang I-Tang Makes Pledge

C.P.S.

PEKING, December 18.—"While the Greater East Asia War is entering its second year, I wish to declare solemnly that North China will carry out the policies of the Government and concentrate all forces in order to render full assistance to the successful consummation of the War," declared Wang I-tang, Chairman of the North China Political Affairs Commission, in a statement issued here recently.

New Order in East Asia Assured, Says Nanking Official in Survey

Co-Prosperity Sphere Taking Definite Shape With Progress of War, Asserts Vice-Minister of Publicity—Sees Enemy Influence Dead and Buried

Japan, by virtue of her brilliant victories in the War of Greater East Asia, has driven pillars of steel into East Asia to support the structure of New Order, and China, under the capable leadership of President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government, is now better equipped than ever to increase all efforts toward the achievement of the common goal of establishing the Co-Prosperity Sphere. In this vein, T'ang Leang-Li, Political Vice-Minister of Publicity and concurrently Director-General of the International Publicity Board of Nanking, speaking on the theme New Order on Way to Fulfilment, surveyed past events and stated that the accomplishment of the common objective of all peoples in this part of the globe is already within sight.

The complete text of Mr. T'ang's speech, supplied through the courtesy of the Press Bureau of the International Publicity Board, follows:

The New Order in East Asia, the foundations of which were firmly laid with the conclusion of the Treaty concerning the Basic Relations between Japan and China on November 30, 1940, and the issue of the Japan-Manchoukuo-China Joint Declaration on the same date, is now fast on its way to complete realization, following the momentous developments in international affairs both in East Asia in particular, and the world in general, during the two years which elapsed. As we celebrate the second anniversary of this historical occasion, we are filled with a sense of gratification over the far-sighted action taken by China under the able leadership of President Wang and in direct conformity with the behested teachings of the National Father in the determination to ally ourselves with our natural friends for the promotion of a common objective, the accomplishment of which is already within sight.

Principles Reaffirmed

The principles underlying this Basic Treaty were further affirmed in the Joint Declaration issued by President Wang in his capacity of President of the Executive Yuan and then by Premier Prince Konoye during the President's State Visit to Japan in June 1941, when the Governments of Japan and China pledged to put forth increasing efforts toward the achievement of their common goal, the regeneration of East Asia. While China undertook to present concrete facts of Sino-Japanese cooperation in the political, military, economic and cultural fields, Japan on her part promised to exert herself by extending increasing assistance to enable the National Government to demonstrate fully its free and independent authority and power.

Nor were these empty promises, as the developments of the past two years have borne out. The assistance which Japan has extended to China has covered all important phases of national life, including aid for the readjustment of our finances, for our industrial rehabilitation and for the rebuilding of China's armed forces. The spirit of cooperation has likewise prevailed in all fields of activity, from military collaboration in the important work of rural pacification, the re-development of industry, to the promotion of cultural affinity.

China's endeavors in national reconstruction have likewise been attended with satisfactory results. The complete restoration of peace and order in the Peace Areas, an accomplishment greatly enhanced through the initiation of the Rural Pacification Campaign, has restored to countless people their homes and their fields, and rural rehabilitation is now being facilitated.

New Diplomatic Ties

With its foundations thus consolidated, the international prestige of the National Government could not but become exalted, and diplomatic relations were soon resumed with our friendly nations, representing the leading powers of the world, and new relations established with countries which had formerly no diplomatic contact with China. In addition to Japan and Manchoukuo, the National Government at present has diplomatic relations with such countries as Germany, Italy, Rumania, Spain, Hungary, Croatia, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Denmark, and Thailand.

The establishment of diplomatic contact between China and Thailand is a matter of special significance. Though these two countries of East Asia have enjoyed the closest of intercourse for thousands of years, no official relations have been created in modern times. Moreover, as a result of this development, the four independent states in East Asia, Japan, Manchoukuo, China and Thailand, are now united into one family, thus further consolidating the East Asiatic Axis formed with the issue two years ago of the Three-Power Joint Declaration.

The outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia in December last year, when Japan was forced to resort to armed strength for the expulsion of the Anglo-American imperialistic aggressors whose interests are incompatible with the ideals of the New Order in East Asia, has brought the task of the building of this New Order from its theoretical to its practical stage, and the unparalleled successes of the Imperial Japanese Forces have moreover brought the successful accomplishment of the Order within sight.

Anglo U.S. Influence Dead

The emancipation of the oppressed peoples of East Asia is no longer an empty dream, but a reality which has been brought home to the world with the progress of the War of Greater East Asia. All the bases with which Anglo-American imperialistic aggressors have been employing in the course of the past century for their exploitation of our East Asiatic peoples have practically fallen before the unparalleled successes scored by the Imperial Japanese Forces, and millions of men and women have been liberated from the yoke of imperialistic oppression under which they have for a hundred years and more been living a life of misery and poverty, while the imperialists have been filling their coffers with wealth and gold, the fruits of sweat and drudgery of the enslaved peoples.

Even in China, concrete results of this New Order of things are numerous. No longer do the imperialistic aggressors assume an arrogant air in their privileged strongholds to hold in contempt the nation and people who give them hospitality and wealth. Their concessions, which served as a base for their nefarious activities, have been taken over and returned to their rightful owners, China—another concrete proof of the sincerity of our Ally to exert herself for our common interests. The many schools and institutions, which constituted a base for the cultural aggression of our youth, and thereby doing China inestimable harm, have also been restored to the control of our own authorities, and necessary steps taken for their reorganization into institutions that would work for the interests of China and of East Asia.

As President Wang recently pointed out in the course of a speech at Hankow, the bright future is already before us—before China, before East Asia. The New Order is fast becoming a complete reality, but we must also not forget that pending its full realization, difficulties are yet in our way, and hardships have yet to be borne. Let all the peoples of East Asia, therefore, take to heart President Wang's enjoinder that we must share present hardships together so that we may win the future comforts jointly.

In our observance of the anniversary of the Treaty concerning the Basic Relations between Japan and China, which formed the basis for the New Order in East Asia, we look confidently to the day when this New Order will be completely established, under which the six hundred million East Asiatic peoples, freed from the yoke of Anglo-American imperialistic aggression, will live in peace and harmony, for coexistence and co prosperity.

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The VENDETTA OF AKO

EIJI YOSHIKAWA

Translated by Choei Jonan
From Eiji Yoshikawa's 'Chushingura'

Chapter 33

Down to the Depths

Chuzaemon Yoshida did not look his sixty odd years. His back was as straight as a cedar tree, and his sturdy frame towered head and shoulders above the others. His lips were large and very red, in spite of his age, and his hair, unable to turn white, clung to his scalp like the fuzzy tuft on Indian corn. He was extremely sunburnt, bespeakink his long hours outdoors in the countryside. He looked every inch a perfect warrior.

Beneath his formidable exterior, however, beat a heart as gentle as that of a maiden. In the district under his supervision, all the farmers looked up at him as their father. Whenever he came to Ako, riding his trusty steed, he invariably brought with him bundles of potatoes, beet-root and other vegetables that he had grown on his private piece of land, as presents to Oishi, at whose mansion he always stayed during his visits.

Oishi always welcomed him. One was a Chief Retainer; the other was a humble samurai. But once they were together, they were equals. They usually spent the nights talking, heedless of the passage of the hours, with occasional sips of sake to help them loosen their tongues.

Oishi was the only man who knew Chuzaemon thoroughly, and the latter was the only one who understood the real feelings beneath the Chief Retainer's impeturbable exterior. They were firm friends.

Perhaps that was why Oishi felt a momentary weakness when, at such a time of severe stress, he saw his dust-covered friend.

"I was waiting for you. . ." he said.

Chuzaemon sat down in front of Oishi. "Words fail me," he said simply, and remained silent, looking fixedly at some invisible point on the tatami.

"I had no wish to extend the trouble of the clan to the townsmen," went on Oishi, "and so I ordered that notice-boards should be put up notifying them that their clan notes will be changed."

"That was well done," answered Yoshida. "I noticed on my way here that that was the one question that was troubling the people most. You have done right. It is what our lord would have ordered had he been here."

Oishi and Yoshida were both men of few words, and like men of few words, they could exchange mutual feelings in a few sentences. Kyurobei Ono glanced at them disgustedly, and walked out of the room as though he had something important to do outside.

In the vast hall groups of samurai still sat or stood here and there in the gathering gloom of twilight. The kitchen boy had prepared some food, which he distributed among the samurai, but nobody touched it.

The servants lit the lanterns one by one, gradually brightening up the hall with yellow light. But the gloom in the hearts of the samurai still remained. Dark, dismal thoughts crossed and criss-crossed in their minds, casting further shadows on their already gloomy mental horizon.

In the adjoining room, however, the sound of clicking from the abacus went on merrily. The pages of the dusty registers rustled and flipped noisily as the clerks turned them over. Candles had been lit, and their flickering flames shone brightly on the preoccupied faces of those clustered round the tomes. Oishi and the others seemed to have forgotten that day had turned to night.

"Right. That will do," said Oishi at last with a sigh.

He had finally ascertained the approximately exact standing of the clan regarding its finances, taking into consideration the revenues that were all still unpaid, the debts uncollected, the loans extended to the salt-refiners, and the evaluation of the rice stocks still in the warehouses.

Oishi took a gulp of cold tea, and asked,

"Where is Ono?"

"He is with the rest of the samurai," said someone.

Oishi went out at once, and beckoning to Kyurobei Ono, led him to a separate room. They remained inside this room for a considerable time.

The samurai loitered about the corridor, casting anxious glances at the closed sliding-doors.

"Master Tomura," called out an attendant suddenly. "The Chief Retainer wishes to see you."

Genzaemon Tomura, one of the chief samurai, who had been sitting in a corner of the hall, jumped up and hastened to Oishi's presence. Presently he came out, and without even glancing at the anxious samurai, rushed away down the corridor in the direction of the front gates.

Oishi had sent him with orders to borrow 4,500 ryo from a relative of the clan, Lord Asano of Geishu of Hiroshima.

It was Oishi's plan to change the townsmen's clan notes with the aid of this loan added to the clan's present revenue. When Kyurobei heard Oishi's explanation, he admitted that it was possible to effect a sixty per cent change without serious trouble to the clan.

In the meantime, the samurai had still remained in the hall, anxiously waiting for definite orders from the Chief Retainer. It was the hour of the dog (past 9 a.m.) when a sudden commotion burst out near the front gates.

"The second relay has arrived!"

In an insant the whole hall was astir with excitement.

Oishi and Ono thrust their way through the jostling, excited samurai, and hastened to the front.

There was not a single samurai there who had not heard that his lord had been sentenced to instant seppuku. But each and every one of them still harbored a faint hope in his heart—the hope that despite the inevitability of the sentence in the face of the offense against the Imperial envoys, something might spring up at the last moment that would cause Lord Asano's life to be spared.

Reason told them that such a thing could not happen. If there had been even the faintest possibility that Lord Asano's life would be spared, he would not have been sentenced to instant seppuku. But not a single samurai spoke this thought out aloud.

"Perhaps, after all . . ." was the hope in their hearts, and it was with this hope that they surged forward to greet the second relay of palanquins.

Captain 34

Waves and Rocks

Presently Oishi and Ono returned, and when the samurai saw their expressions, they realized that their hope had been in vain.

"Our lord is no more. . ."

The same thought flashed simultaneously through all their minds. For a single moment they seemed to be rooted motionless to the floor. All breathing seemed to have stopped. Only the sputtering of the lamps broke the silence.

The new messengers had only confirmed the statements contained in Kataoka's letter to the Chief Retainer, and this confirmation plunged the whole Ako clan into the depths of utter despair.

The samurai gathered once more in the hall, and listened in silence to the voice of Oishi as the Chief Retainer read out to them the report from the messengers.

As Oishi's voice trailed into silence, the pent up emotions of the samurai found vent in loud protestations against the sentence passed by the Bakufu.

"It is unjust! The sentence was unjust!"

"The Bakufu had no right to condemn our lord in that fashion!"

"Look at Kira! He is not only alive, but has been granted an indefinite period of rest for the recovery of a mere scratch!"

"The matter is too one-sided!"

Excited, high-pitched voices rang out from all sections of the gathering. Some of the samurai, in their grief, were openly sobbing.

"Chief Retainer!" yelled out a samurai above the din, "What is your intention now?"

"Fool!" shouted another voice, "What is the use of asking such a question? There is no second road in a samurai's way. Defend the castle to the last, and die! That is the only way!"

The samurai were like fallen leaves cast upon a maelstrom by a sudden gust of wind. Just as each leaf acts differently on the troubled waters according to its size, shape and weight, just so the samurai reacted differently to this sudden calamity that had beset them. No one could foretell their final actions when the waters grew calmer or much worse.

"Emissaries from the Bakufu will come to take over the Castle. But we cannot let it go! We must defend it to the last, or the name of Ako will go down to posterity as dust and dirt!"

"Let us all die! Let us follow our lord!"

"If we must die, let us die fighting! Let us show them that the samurai of Ako have stout bones in them!"

"Well said! If there is anyone who disagrees, let him stand out!"

The shouts of the younger, hot-blooded samurai drowned the whole assembly. It seemed that they had forgotten the presence of the Chief Retainer or of the Castle Representative.

Kyurobei opened his mouth, as though to speak, but apparently thought better of it, and remained silent.

Oishi was imperturbable. He sat silent, looking with expressionless eyes at the two hundred samurai before him. He looked like a cicada that had perched on the root of a tree on the bank, and was gazing at the swirling leaves before him in the turbulent rapids.

"Ono," he said at last, turning to Kyurobei, "Let us call another meeting another time. The night is far gone, and the health of each one of us is doubly precious at a time like this."

Ono nodded in agreement.

"All of you, quiet down," he spoke in a patronizing, authoritative tone. "At a time like this, it is important that all of us should act in unison. Let not any of you succumb to individual prompting, and take independent action. If we do not act like one body, the rest of the world will mock us for being mere rabbles who failed the honor of the clan at its hour of need. Let all of you disperse, except the fire sentries and the vault guards. Wait in patience for the second summons to assemble at this hall. We will make a final discussion then."

The samurai seemed discontented. They were loathe to leave. Seeing this, Ono stood up, and began to leave the hall himself. The samurai, seeing no use in remaining any further, began to leave, singly or in groups.

Oishi had led Chuzaemon Yoshida to another room, and was talking with him. Presently they walked together to the front entrance, where Oishi parted from his friend, as the latter intended to remain in the castle to attend to the lights and the posting of sentries for the night.

Oishi walked out alone into the night. The stars shone down brilliantly from a cloudless sky.

(To Be Continued)

THE PEARL FISHERS

Tadashige Abe

Behind the Brilliant Masterpieces of Strategic Retreats by the Enemy Lie Many Dark Tales of Brutality and Inhumanity, Such as, for Instance, That of The Pearl Fishers Given Below

Six Japanese boats were engaged in pearl fishery in the vicinity of Thursday Island near the Strait of Torres of northwest Australia from the middle of last November. Aside from the 85-ton base ship, the rest were 35 to 45-ton motored sailing vessels. The total crew consisted of some 70 men.

Work on the tropic sea was made difficult with the ferocious squalls that attacked and played with these tiny ships, which came annually from Palao in the South Seas.

On the morning of December 8, 1941, the men on these ships heard of the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War through the only radio on the base ship.

Led by the captain of each ship, the crew turned toward Japan and reverently paid homage. The three cheers of Banzai were given with an emotion never experienced before by these rough seamen.

These men in well-washed but patched shirts and some in shorts went through the ceremony with the deepest respect and reverence. Though rough and crude, they were all burning with Yamato damashii.

Evacuation Order

Immediately after the ceremony, the evacuation order came through the wireless. Knowing the danger of remaining in enemy waters, the men stopped their work and made for home. It was about 11 a.m. A ferocious squall came sweeping over the ships from the west and in a while sped away toward the east.

No obstacle appeared after that. The ships sped north through the Arafura Sea, heading straight for Japan.

It was on December 11, when the ships were past the western end of Frederick Henry Island and were going north of the Aru Island lying southwest of New Guinea that the crew learned that the Dutch Government had declared war against Japan.

Now that Holland had joined the enemy, the voyage was greatly endangered, for Dutch-owned islands lined their way. Although the ships were going in a group, their speeds varied, making it difficult for them to take any joint action. The 35-ton ship, the smallest of the group, for instance, could hardly make eight knots.

That night they received a message ordering them to occupy an uninhabited island in the vicinity and remain there for about a month and a half. Accordingly, the crew occupied a tiny island lying somewhere northwest of New Guinea, there they remained till December 14.

Low Provision

The land felt good under their feet after their long voyage on dangerous waters. However, they could not remain long, for provisions and the oil supply were low. Moreover, there was only enough fuel for generating the wireless apparatus motor to last only two weeks.

Without the wireless, they could not make any contact, nor would they be able to take orders. The fuel was even more important than food.

Finally, on December 14, after explaining the situation by wireless to the authorities, they left the island, led by the base ship. The voyage was continued with full speed amid the approaching dangers. The 35-ton ship followed the rest desperately with as much speed as she could produce.

On the 15th, the ships anchored for the day at Waigeu Island, and at about 4 p.m. the following day, left there to sail again on the dangerous sea. A few knots more and the most dangerous area would be past. The ships sped at full blast under the scorching sun.

A squall passed by now and then over the otherwise smooth and calm sea. Shoals of dolphins sped by the ships spraying water about them. Then another squall passed by, leaving the sea refreshed and calm.

Just then the whirring of an airplane was heard.

The Bomber

"Japanese airplane!"

"No! It's not! It's an enemy plane. It's a Dutch plane!"

In the next moment the enemy bomber was flying 500 meters overhead.

"It's a Dutch bomber!" Someone shouted. The red triangular insignia could be seen distinctly on both wings. Simultaneously, bullets came flying, and the plane flew northwestward. Knowing that the ships were unarmed, the enemy had dared to fly at so low an altitude.

It immediately returned and flew again as low as 500 meters. It began to drop bombs this time. Four bombs were dropped, but none hit the ships. Only three splinters flew into the base ship. The enemy plane returned again and again, machine-gunning continuously. Some bullets hit two of the ships. However, none was injured. The enemy then stopped firing and flew southward in the dusk.

The following morning the small 35-ton ship was sailing alone, far behind the other ships. However Shinichi Tanaka, the 23-year old captain of the ship and his 12 men sailed on fearlessly, for the Japanese mandated islands were near. Nevertheless, strict watch was kept night and day.

It was about 9 a.m. An airplane came flying in the clear blue sky from the west.

"Airplane!" Simultaneous with this shout of the sailor at the bow, the captain ran to the deck. The plane began to fire viciously. The bullets hit the deck and the sails.

"Captain! I've been hit!" A sailor staggered to the captain who had just appeared on the deck.

"What happened?"

The sailor fell into the captain's arms, breathing his last. Three shots had pierced the stomach, another the arm. The spouting blood immediately turned the captain's shirt to crimson.

The chief engineer and the telegraph operator, who were in the telegraph-room ran up to the deck. The plane thundered overhead and passed by. It was the same type of plane as that of the day before. The Dutch insignia showed plainly on the wings.

'Don't Give Up!'

That instant the captain's scream was heard. The chief engineer and the wireless operator held the falling captain. Deep red blood flowed out from the captain's chest.

"Don't give up. Don't give up." With these words he sank into the engineer's arms and expired. Hit in nine places he had died a gallant death.

The whirring of the plane came again. The plane came flying only 200 meters above. In the next moment there was another rain of bullets. Those falling into the water were like a storm of hail. The water continued to spray high into the air.

One hit the deck. . . Another the mast. The 35-ton wooden ship with not a weapon on board, was utterly hopeless before the enemy plane.

Suddenly, the chief engineer, who had been carrying the captain in his arms, fell forward. His chest and throat were crimson. The wireless operator jumped beside him. Three sailors came running to him.

"Chief engineer! Chief engineer!" They all shouted but the engineer uttered not a sound.

The enemy plane had gone. The whirring sound was no more. The horrible moment had actually lasted only about 15 minutes. But what great damage the ship had undergone in that short time! A total of 53 holes were found, among which four were in places where the water could get in. The whole crew took to preventing the water from getting in. They worked hard, but with the captain and the chief engineer gone, they felt themselves hopeless.

No Contact

The wireless apparatus having also been hit by enemy bullets all means of contact were now gone. Some trouble rose in the engine and the ship would not move. Out of the small crew, they had lost the captain, the chief engineer, and the sailor in charge of lubrication. Besides, two were injured, one of whom was in quite a serious condition.

After a serious conference, the remaining crew decided to sail north, though with only the sail to depend upon, the ships would not be able to speed more than three knots an hour.

That evening another Dutch bomber came and fired again. But the gloom prevented it from getting any results.

Night finally came. The remaining nine, of which two were helplessly injured, stayed up the whole night trying to sail the ship northward. The tiny sailing vessel sailed shakily over the dark sea. Meanwhile, the sailors took turns on the deck to pray before the three dead bodies, burning mosquito sticks and cigarettes in place of incense.

The ship continued its perilous journey until it was finally saved at 6:30 on the morning of December 18. The ship which had drifted to the vicinity of a Japanese possession, was saved by a ship owned by the South Seas Developing Company.

As the ship was tugged to the island, the gallant sight of the sea eagles floating on the waters came to the sailors' eyes. The whole crew fell into tears of joy and relief. The other five ships that they had lost sight of on the way had all reached safely another island. Now that Holland has been completely defeated and Greater East Asia is fast developing under the guidance of Japan, the souls of the captain, the chief engineer, and the sailor, who had died martyrs of the war, must be resting peacefully in the other world. (Tadashige Abe, member of Navy Information Corps.)

TAIKO HIDEYOSHI

The Rise of a Remarkable Man

Final Instalment

Another person was selected to take over the work and Mitsuhide told to leave for Chugoku immediately and receive further orders from Hideyoshi. Mitsuhide listened in silence to his lord's tirade unable to lift his head, so filled was he with mortification and hate. To have his painstaking efforts come to naught and be commanded to take orders from one whom he considered his inferior were two matters to which he could not reconcile himself.

Mitsuhide betook himself to his castle and in the privacy of his quarters finally decided that he could no longer stand Nobunaga's ill-meant actions. He called his five trusted vassals together and disclosed his plan saying that no matter which way they decided he was going ahead with it. All five rallied to their lord's decision and pledged loyalty to the very last.

Mitsuhide knew that on May 29 Nobunaga would proceed to Kyoto with about one hundred and fifty men and stop at Honnoji in order to settle some affairs in the capital-city.

Mitsuhide's thirteen thousand soldiers started out under the impression that Chugoku was their destination. Soon after their departure, however, Mitsuhide Akechi stood before them and outlined his plan. With words of encouragement from their leaders to the effect that Mitsuhide Akechi was setting out to bring the whole country under his power, the men advanced on Honnoji.

The Last of Nobunaga Oda

Presently Mitsuhide Akechi's army of 13,000 entered Kyoto and headed straight for Honnoji.

At Honnoji, Nobunaga made plans with his son and heir fair into the night. His parting words as he retired to his sleeping quarters were: "Once we have crushed Mori in the Central Provinces peace will return to the whole country and Nobunaga shall rule supreme. This is indeed a matter for rejoicing."

Early in the morning unexplainable battle cries awakened him from deep slumber. Ranmaru Mori, a favorite retainer, answered his call and brought the information that Mitsuhide Akechi had rebelled and was making for Honnoji. Nobunaga's eyes narrowed in anger but not a word escaped his lips.

The Akechi forces had broken down the main gate and were pouring into Lord Oda's temporary headquarters. While the vassals fought stubbornly to check the enemy's advance, Nobunaga stood his ground in the private quarters, armed with bow and arrow. A perfect aim killed two of Mitsuhide's highest ranking vassals. Suddenly the bowstring snapped and the unfortunate lord was forced to fall back on a spear.

An arrow had found its mark on Sakubei Yasuda's left arm, the third enemy general who had dared match forces with Nobunaga, before the bow had become useless. Undaunted, Sakubei advanced spear in hand and took advantage of the slight opening in his opponent's defense before the spear had replaced the bow in Nobunaga's hand.

Becoming aware of the danger to Oda's life, Ranmaru quickly extricated himself from his adversary and hastened to his lord's assistance. At Ranmaru's suggestion Nobunaga withdrew to the next room. Knowing that his master would seek death by his own-hand, Ranmaru tried to exchange one last look with Oda but Sakubei was already upon him.

The two warriors were well matched and quick thinking and nimbleness of action characterized the contest. Finally Ranmaru succeeded in knocking Sakubei down into the garden. However, his levelled spear missed its aim by some mischance and thrust itself into his adversary's thigh. Sakubei grabbed Ranmaru's spear and lightly leaping onto the hallway drew his sword with lightning speed and cut Ranmaru down. Simultaneously Sakubei fell to the floor weak from loss of blood.

Someone had set Honnoji on fire and flames enveloped the surroundings as Sakubei searched for Nobunaga. He had just managed to catch a hold of Lord Oda's sleeve when Nobunaga drew his short sword and plunged it into his own abdomen. Then quickly he leapt into the furiously burning fire.

Thus, at the height of his career, Lord Nobunaga Oda was forced to end his life with his own hand.

Peace With Mori

At Hideyoshi's headquarters near Takamatsu Castle arrived a breathless messenger. "Lord Akechi has burnt down Honnoji."

Hideyoshi's bewilderment was indescribable. For a moment speech failed him, but he soon rallied and called in Kanbei Kuroda for a conference of major importance. Between them they decided to keep the information secret and reopen negotiations with Mori for immediate reconciliation.

Kanbei lost no time sending for the mediator, Keisu of Ankoku Temple.

"I wanted to talk to you about the matter of reaching an understanding with Terumoto Mori. In three or four more days Lord Oda will be here. Once he arrives he may decide that he does not want to make peace with Lord Mori. However, I am of the opinion that the two lords should not prolong this warfare any longer. Death by drowning seems a miserable fate indeed for the defenders of Takamatsu Castle."

"Yes, I agree with you, but your conditions were so extreme that Lord Mori would not consent to them."

"That's it. That's what I want to talk to you about. My new proposal is that Inaba and Mimasaku be surrendered to the Hideyoshi forces and Muneharu Shimizu be required to commit seppuku."

"I would say those were very reasonable conditions. I shall make haste to bring the matter to Lord Mori's attention."

Keisu hurried to the Mori camp bearing this new proposal, completely unaware that Nobunaga had died only a short while before. However, the three members of the Mori family, Terumoto, Motoharu and Takakage again opposed the condition requiring Muneharu Shimizu to lay down his life to satisfy the Hideyoshi forces.

Fearing for the disastrous outcome of the conflict, should it continue, Keisu then decided to make a personal plea to the lord of Takamatsu Castle. Shimizu shed tears of gratitude upon learning of his lord's refusal to consent to his death and quickly made up his mind to sacrifice his life in the cause of the Mori forces.

Thus reconciliation was concluded and Hideyoshi gradually withdrew the troops surrounding Takamatsu Castle.

Set upon meting out punishment on Mitsuhide Akechi for his treacherous behavior, Hideyoshi decided to leave Himeji Castle on his campaign on June 9 in the tenth year of Tensho (1582).

Hideyoshi started out on his campaign firmly resolved to bring utter defeat to the rebel lord, convinced of the justice of his mission. Mitsuhide Akechi, on the other hand found himself feeling increasingly guilty for his betrayal of Lord Oda's trust.

On June 13 the two armies engaged in battle with the resulting ignominious flight of the Akechi forces. Mitsuhide Akechi was forced to flee for his life and ended his short-lived career as self-appointed ruler of the country in an out-of-the-way country road.

The victorious Hideyoshi made his triumphant entry into Kyoto. His first act was to hold a memorial service for his former master, Lord Nobunaga Oda.

Envious of his success, generals like Katsuiye Shibata and Kazumasa Takigawa rose up in arms against Hideyoshi only to meet complete defeat. All other inimical elements in Shikoku, Kyushu and Odawara (Hojo forces) were similarly crushed and gradually the whole country came under his powerful sway.

Osaka Castle, the headquarters of the new ruler, surpassed even Nobunaga's Castle of Azuchi in magnificence. The site chosen was the one where Ishiyama Honganji had once stood.

In the thirteenth year of Tensho (1585), at the age of 50, Hideyoshi was granted the name of Toyotomi by the Imperial Government, from which time he become known as Hideyoshi Toyotomi. In the nineteenth year of Tensho (1591) he earned the name of Taikō.

With his two expeditions to Chosen his name spread even throughout China. Death, however, came to Hideyoshi before success had crowned his undertaking in that country.

Taiko Hideyoshi departed from this world in the third year of Keicho (1598) when 63 years of age. Born of humble parents in Owari province, Hideyoshi Toyotomi rose to power and brought peace and prosperity to all of Japan, his reputation spreading even to China. He was indeed a hero possessing extraordinary qualities.

The End

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NOTICE

On the occasion of the New Year Celebrations, foreign gentlemen possessing Japanese Orders of the 1st class will be granted audience, and those possessing Orders from the 2nd class to the 6th (inclusive) will be admitted to sign their names in the Visitors' Book at the Imperial Palace.

They are requested to send in their names and addresses, indicating the class of the Orders conferred upon them (those possessing Orders of the 3rd class and upwards to send in the names of their wives also), to the Board of Ceremonies (Sikibusyoku) not later than the 26th instant.

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RAW SILK CONTINUES TO SELL VERY WELL

Agriculture Minister Speaks on New Mission of Fiber in Co-Prosperity Sphere

(Special to the Japan Times Advertiser)

YOKOHAMA, December 21.—Spot raw silk continued to sell very well last week with strong demands received not only from domestic consumers but from exporters to the south. Export silk prices were exceedingly above the officially fixed figures of the home use goods; yet they did not cease going up because of an excess of supply over demand. Indeed, export silk was priced nearly ¥200 higher than the same grades of home use silk, white 13/15 deniers, grade D closing at ¥1,665, yellow 20/22 deniers, grade D at ¥1,625 and white 20/22 deniers, grade D at ¥1,640. This was accounted for by speculation by merchants, who were, however, refraining, it is reported, from excessive speculative trading in view of too much advance in the prices.

The futures market was quiet last week as if it were closed, with most operators losing speculative interest in it and holding off. But the prices were supported in sympathy with the spot market, reflecting bullish views into the future supply and demand position.

Returns for Six Months

From the Yokohama Raw Silk Merchants' Guild returns, it may be noted that in the period from June 1 to November 30, 1942, the total arrivals at Yokohama and Kobe lost 38,050 bales from the same interval of 1941, with 154,976 bales, and that in the meantime the total reshipments from both ports to the interior fell off 27,193 bales, with 123,560 bales. This is considered to be a decrease in the cocoon crop and a restriction on the domestic consumption of raw silk, under a stricter control than last year.

At a recent regular general meeting of the National Cooperative Silk Reelers' Federation, held in Tokyo, emergency and permanent measures to be taken in regard to the raw silk industry were brought up for discussion and it was decided to send a memorial to the Government soon about them. The emergency measures include an official declaration to be made as to the importance of raw silk industry, encouragement of the cooperative rearing of young silk worms and such simple methods of rearing the old as mulberry leave feeding on twigs or the flat method, and the suitable raising of cocoon prices.

The permanent measures comprise the establishment of a suitable system of control over mulberry farms so as to promote their efficiency, the re-organization of the raw silk industry as a unitary productive structure in higher degree than at present and its additional carrying on of weaving, studies into the production of articles relative to the situation and into raw silk as textile resource in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, studies into robust silkworm species containing more silk than at present, and the simplification of the testing and inspection of silkworm eggs, cocoons and raw silk.

Ino Speaks

Taking the occasion of a general meeting of the National Silk Raisers' Federation, held in Tokyo on December 18, Agriculture and Forestry Minister Ino spoke thereat on the new mission of raw silk in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. Mr. Ino substantially spoke to the following effect:

The raw silk industry must be developed as an important link in the chain of the domestic industrial economic system as well as that of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere by the cooperative efforts of the Government and the people for the smooth administration of the Raw Silk Industry Control Law. In the present wartime, the importance of the raw silk industry and of its proper management may be summarized into three essentials.

One of them is the importance of the raw silk industry as domestic textile and other resource, and this importance is increasing more and more as the supply of other textiles is growing in tightness as at present. Raw silk is still looked upon as luxury, but this idea must be corrected, and it must be made an object of national demand as wearing material for common use, by reducing the cost of production through technical and other improvements. But there is a limit to it.

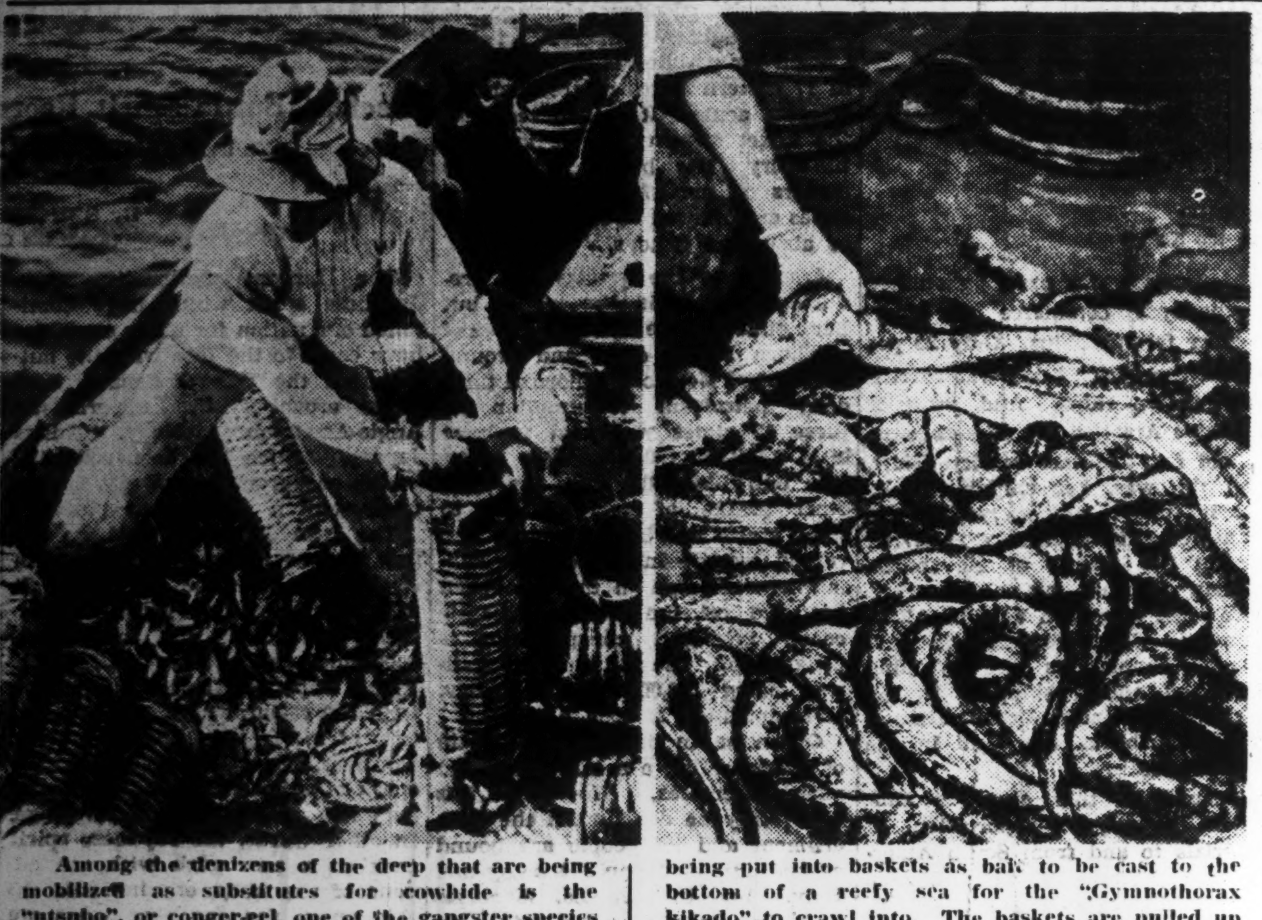
Already Made Commercially

There are, however, short silk fiber and wool'en-silk already produced commercially, and they can be made into practical fabrics of characteristic taste by interweaving with staple fiber, rayon, wool or cotton. The using of silkworm pupas and mulberry barks in high degree is being materialized steadily, too, which will serve to reduce the total cost of production of the raw silk industry.

Secondly, raw silk is playing a very important role in the southern regions as wearing material, which is most largely wanted there, as it has hitherto been got largely there from outside countries, while it will be impossible to satisfy promptly the demand for it there by the increased production of raw cotton in North China and the Philippines and Celebes and of wool in Manchoukuo and Mengchiang. For this, it will be necessary to supply raw silk in a form most easily usable there, besides as manufactured goods, and at such a low price as to meet the standard of living of the southerners.

Thirdly, the raw silk industry is important from the viewpoint of the firm establishment of agricultural villages of the Empire, for which it is as important as staple foodstuffs and must be developed newly as an important link of the chain of the agricultural development of Japan.

Unlovely but Useful



Among the denizens of the deep that are being mobilized as substitutes for cowhide is the "utsubo", or conger-eel, one of the gangster species that infest fisheries and hated of fishermen, preying on shrimps and other edible crustaceans and small fish. Picture to the left shows sardines being put into baskets as bait to be cast to the bottom of a reefy sea for the "Gymnothorax kikado" to crawl into. The baskets are pulled up and the longish creatures are ready to be turned into handbags, pocketbooks, brief cases and what not.

NORTH CHINA INDUSTRY

Shantung Noted for Good, Plentiful Coal; Gold Veins Lie in Various Parts of Region; Salt Industry Yielding Results

Among the mineral wealth of Shantung Province, coal occupies the most important position by virtue of its superior quality and large deposit. About 30 per cent of the total output which reaches an enormous figure is of high viscidity. Efforts are now being made for increased production and fine results are expected during next year.

It will be recollected that up to the last years of the Taisho period (1913-1915) the output of coal in Japan far exceeded the home consumption and a large volume used to be exported, but since then the demand has been in excess of the domestic production, and with the development of heavy industry in recent years, the demand has been on the increase by leaps and bounds. Consequently, the increase in the volume of coal being imported is not to be attributed to a shortage of deposits or to lack of mining efficiency, but is due to an increased demand for coking coal of high viscosity required in iron manufacture.

Most of the coal-producing areas in Shantung Province are located only between 200 and 400 kilometers distant from the seacoast, and with the good harbors of Tsingtao and Lienyunchiang available near at hand, the completion of land transportation facilities with the establishment of peace and order promises to be very easy. The coal produced there is what is called "bituminous coal" of superior quality, which, coupled with the abundant output, makes the Province the foremost producing center of coking coal in the Co-Prosperity Sphere.

Coal Mines Revived

The coal-districts in Shantung Province can be geographically divided into the Kiaochow-Tsinan Railway zone, the Tientsin-Pukow Railway zone and the central mountainous region. The coal-fields along the Kiaochow-Tsinan Railway include those extending over Poshan, Tzechwan and Chankiu and in Fangtzu. These coal-fields were at one time reduced almost to ruin at the hands of the enemy in the initial stage of the China Affair, but thanks to the strenuous efforts put forth both by the Government and the people jointly for resuscitation, the output during last year far exceeded the highest record realized prior to the outbreak of the Affair.

Shantung Province is blessed with rich deposits of iron ores everywhere, including Kinlingchen, Yihsien, Kiaohsien, Linyi, Fushan, Penglai, Tsimo, Kaomi, Changyi, Ishui, Poshan, Laiwu-hsien, Ningyang and Sintai, but the ores produced in Kinlingchen greatly excel in quality and volume of deposit. In the four years commencing 1919, more than 300,000 tons of iron ores were obtained and supplied to Japan. Subsequently, as a result of the Washington Conference, the industry was placed under the joint management of Japan and China and mining preparations have since been in steady progress.

Gold Veins Many

The amount of gold deposit in China is not yet determined, but its distribution is almost country-wide, including not only the various provinces in China Proper, but Mengchiang, Sinkiang and other frontier districts. It is found mostly in the form of placer-gold, but the gold produced in North China, especially in Shantung, in the form of ores is looked upon with very great expectations.

Alumina shale is another of the important resources found in Shantung whose development is now urgently needed. With its chemical industry yet at a low standard, China has heretofore produced little or no aluminum, depending almost entirely on importats from abroad for supply of its aluminum requirements. However, on account of the stoppage of overseas supply, the abundant deposit in Shantung of alumina shale, the indispensable material for aluminum, has come up before the the footlights of the times. The principal producing districts are Tzechwan and Poshan.

Fluor-Spar

Fluor-spar, which has a special use as material for magnesium indispensable for iron manufacture, is produced in Shantung Province in Kiao-hsien, Kiaohsien, Kaomi and Tsimo around Tsingtao, as well as in the northern part of Tengchow in Shantung Peninsula, particularly in Penglai. The product is excelled in both quality and quantity and when transportation facilities are completed in these districts, it is expected that the development of the resources will be quite easy.

Besides the above, Shangtung has, among its mineral resources, steatite in Chaoyuan and Yeh-hsien and mica in Tsimo, Chucheng and Tzechwan.

Salt Industry

With the phenomenal development in the chemical industry of Japan, the importance of salt resources has been greatly increased in view of the necessity of securing national defense material. In spite of the increased demand for salt, its supply from abroad went down in volume by degrees since the outbreak of the second European War, and stopped entirely with the occurrence of the War of Greater East Asia. Hence the demand for increased production of North China salt, especially of Shantung salt.

The development of salt resources in North China was originally started soon after the outbreak of the China Incident around Tangku, which was followed by similar attempts in Shantung and Haichow under the control of Japanese national policy companies. The salt industry in Shantung sustained big damage as a result of the China Affair at its commencement and was again subjected to a fatal blow in consequence of the severe storm which visited the coast of North China at the end of August, 1939, but due to painstaking efforts exercised by the manufacturers and the authorities concerned, all difficulties have been successfully overcome, and the industry is now being carried on with highly satisfactory results.

Fervent Nationalism Push Japan to Victory

(Continued from Page 6)

tended their assistances to the Chinese revolutionary leader.

Nationalist succeeded in consolidating their foundation. In their intellectual pursuit and practice of their theories, they attained a high level never known in the history of Japanese spirit. Unlike those nationalists of former days, who sought to clarify the Japanese spirit by excluding things foreign they frankly and passionately extolled the Japanese national spirit for its capacity to assimilate all that with which it came into contact.

Take, for instance, Dr. Katsuhiko Kakehi of the Tokyo Imperial University. He insisted on the superiority of ancient Shintoism to all other religions, but at the same time he recognized raison d'etre of the other religions. There were many Japanese scholars and thinkers who subscribed to his view.

The Manchurian Incident was one of the greatest events in the history of modern Japan. With the outbreak of the incident, Japan was placed in the midst of international difficulty. Facing the opposition of the League of Nations, the people were given an opportunity to reexamine and reaffirm the Japanese spirit. As the result, individualism and internationalism gradually gave way to the ascendancy of racialism and nationalism.

Japanese nationalism had blended with the Japanese spirit ever since the beginning of the Taisho era, or 1912. The Japanese spirit was bound to harmonize with the nationalistic tendency. In other words, the modern Japanese people have reexamined and grasped the significance of Japanese spirit through the modern lens of nationalism. It was for this reason that the fundamental character of the Japanese nation was often interpreted to be one and the same with patriotism, racialism and nationalism. But on the other hand, there were many scholars and thinkers like Dr. Chigaku Tanaka, who emphasized importance of the significance of Hakko Ichiu, which appears in the Nihon Shoki, one of the oldest written documents.

But the fact remained that there was a fundamental difference in the principle of Hakko Ichiu and the modern racial nationalism of the West. The advocate of modern nationalism declares that the State is supreme and demands each and every constituent member to render service to it. This logic of modern nationalism is entirely proper and applicable to any nation of Western nationalism, but such is not the case in so far as Japan is concerned.

Agricultural Conference

The Agricultural and Forestry Minister is expected to hold a four-day conference, at the Sankaido, Akasaka-ku, beginning January 13, of the prefectural authorities responsible for the production of all crops, including rice, cereals, potatoes, sweet potatoes, vegetables and other items in order to push their production, says the Nippon Sangyo.

OCTOBER HOLDINGS CAUSE MIXED TONE

While Ina Electric Railway, Others Advance, Fuji, Others Recede

Reflecting the closing session sentiment in transactions in October bidden holdings, the Tokyo Stock Exchange saw an irregular tone in quotations yesterday.

In the long-term section, for instance, Ina Electric Railway continued to rise, advancing ¥3.20, and Kureha Spinning stepped up ¥2.20, Keshuha Electric Industrial ¥2.00, Japan Electric Power ¥1.80, O.S.K. ¥1.70, Oji Paper ¥1.50, Japan Precision Machinery ¥1.30, Diesel Automobile and Japan Mining ¥1.20 each, Hitachi Iron Works, new, and Ishikawajima Shipbuilding ¥1.10 each. On the other hand, Fuji Spinning, and Kurashiki Rayon lost ¥1.30 and ¥1.70 respectively.

The short-term section was steady, and the prime issues as well as the bourse issue scored moderate gains.

The spot market was continuously rosy. Hodogaya Chemical rose ¥1.50, Kawasaki Heavy Industrial ¥1.20, Kawanami Shipbuilding and Mitsui Bussan ¥1.00 each.

Long-Term Section

Yesterday's final prices of select issues in the long-term section were:

First Section

	—Delivery—		
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb
Kanebo Spinning (50)	128.5	129.4	130.0
Sino-Japan Spin (50)	76.8	78.7	80.1
Teikoku Rayon (50)	75.6	76.0	76.1
Kurashiki Rayon (50)	61.6	66.1	67.0
Toa Hemp Ind (50)	72.3	73.2	73.3
Tokyo Hemp Yarn (50)	91.3	96.0	96.0
Showa Elec Ind (50)	77.8	79.4	79.9
Japan Nitrogen (50)	73.1	74.5	74.9
Second Section			
N. Y. K. (50)	90.0	90.5	91.3
O. S. K. (50)	84.2	84.5	85.6
Toyo Steamship (50)	66.9	67.7	67.8
Nissan Steamship (50)	60.6	61.9	62.1
Mitsubishi Mining (50)	88.9	90.1	90.4
Ishihara Ind (50)	66.5	67.5	68.2
Third Section			
Furukawa Elec Ind (50)	102.9	104.7	101.7
M'bishi Elec Mach (50)	125.2	127.7	127.9
Japan Oils and Fats (50)	66.1	66.7	63.6
Japan Beer (50)	99.6	97.8	99.4
Tropical Ind (42½)	40.5	41.5	42.0
Sumatra Dev. new (37½)	44.4	45.5	45.2
Asahi Glass (50)	93.1	99.5	99.5
Toa Tobacco (50)	99.7	101.7	102.0
Manchou Tobacco (50)	85.6	87.8	88.4

Short-Term Section

	Open.	High	Low	Clos.
Tokyo Exch. new	90.0	93.0	89.1	92.3
N. Y. K., new	75.8	6.9	5.6	76.2
M'bishi Heavy Ind.	94.3	5.7	4.0	94.9
Kanebo Spin. new	74.3	5.3	4.0	74.8
Teikoku Rayon. new	66.3	7.3	6.1	67.3
Hitachi Iron Works	88.1	9.0	8.0	88.2
Osaka Exch. new	44.3	7.8	4.3	45.1
Japan Steel Tube	68.1	8.5	8.0	68.0
Japan Oil	75.0	5.8	5.0	75.4
S. M. R.	72.7	2.9	2.8	72.8
N. Y. K., old	91.0	1.0	0.2	90.0
Hokkaido Coal	74.8	5.2	4.9	74.9
Kanebo Spin. old	128.1	8.5	8.0	....
Toyo Rayon. new	55.4	5.4	5.0	55.0
Kokura Iron Works	53.8	4.0	3.1	53.3
Japan Beer. new	45.1	5.9	5.3	[illegible]
Japan Sugar. new	65.9	6.4	5.9	65.9
Ensuiko Sugar	61.0	1.0	0.7	60.9
Japan Mining	61.8	2.4	1.8	61.8
Manchou Ind	58.3	8.9	8.4	[illegible]

Beans for New Year

Among the many special food items for New Year distribution, different kinds of beans will be allocated shortly to households in Tokyo, Hachioji, Ichikawa, Musashino and Mitaka. They are available between December 25 and 31 and price 46-75 sen, depending on kind.

Bill Clearings

December 21

(In ¥1,000)

	Tokyo	Osaka
Bills Cleared	420.786	152.850
Balance	148.413	22.241

THE NIPPON KOGYO GINKO
(The Industrial Bank of Japan, Ltd.)
Established by the Japanese Government by virtue of a Special Enactment of the Imperial Diet.
Capital ¥200,000,000
8, 1-chome, Marunouchi, Kojimachi-ku Tokyo.
Nihombashi—4, Tori 2-chome, Nihombashi-ku.
Osaka—1, 5-chome, Korai-bashi, Higashi-ku.
Kobe—36 Nishimachi, Kobe-ku.
Nagoya—1, 3-chome, Hirokoji-dori, Naka-ku.
Fukuoka—80 Tenjin-no-cho,
Tohoku—22 Omachi, Fukushima.
Toyama—20 Sakurabashi-dori.
Hiroshima—87 Sarugaku-cho.
Hokkaido—1 Nishi 4-chome, Kita-sanjo, Sapporo.
Correspondents—In the principal cities in home and abroad.
Governor: Koichi Kawakami, Esq.
Vice-Governor: Seiichiro Arai, Esq.
Director: Ryuzo Watanabe, Esq., Ken Ito, Esq., Kisaku Matsushima, Esq., Kikumatsu Nakayama, Esq., Akira Komiya, Esq.
Auditors: Count Yoshinori Futara Eizaburo Sugano, Esq., Keikichi Kataoka, Esq.
1.—Loans on the security of public bonds or debentures and shares, estates (/aidan), specified land and buildings
2.—Subscription and underwriting of public bonds or debentures.
3.—Deposits and safe custody of valuables
4.—Discounting of bills
Other Banking business sanctioned by the Minister of State for Finance in accordance with Ordinance.

FISHING IN N. WATERS CONTINUES AS USUAL

Japanese Brave War Perils to Enrich Nation's Supply of Salmon, Trout, Crab, Cod

Irrespective of Japan's southward advance, the northern waters retain their priceless value as Japan's natural depot of marine products, for, the seas to the north of Japan contain a great deal of plankton which fish feed on. In spite of the present war in the Pacific, the brave fishermen of Japan are carrying on their activities in these waters are usual in order to enrich the supply of fish throughout Japan.

The following is the gist of an article, concerning fishery in northern waters, published in the latest issue of the Kokusei Graph.

"By the northern waters, we mean," says the Kokusei Graph, "the water surfaces along the coasts of Chosen, the Maritime Province, East Karafuto, the Hokkaido, the Chishima islands, West Kamchatka, the Aleutian Islands, and Alaska; in other words, the western part of the Japan Sea, and the greater portions of the Okhotsk and Bering Seas. Japan's fishery districts involve both coasts of Kamchatka, a portion of the Soviet waters, and the adjacent waters of the Chishima Islands.

"These waters abound in salmons, trouts, crabs, cods, and herrings. Salmons are generally preserved in salt, but pink salmons, on account of their delicious flavor and taste, are either canned or smoked for preservation, while trouts are mostly preserved in salt, beanpaste, and sake-lees. Some of them are smoked or canned for preservation. Some of the trouts known as "Masunosuke" weigh over 10 kans each. They are highly valued because of their delicious taste. The crabs in the northern waters are known by the name of "taraba-gani" and are found in large numbers in the adjacent waters of the Hokkaido, the Chishima Islands, Karafuto, North Chosen and the Maritime Province, as well as in the Okhotsk Sea, and along the coasts of Kamchatka, the Aleutian Islands, and Alaska. These crabs are found in waters densely inhabited by cods. Hence, their name "tarabagani," which means the crabs living with "tara," or cods.

Cods are generally caught in the northern waters, where the fishing season begins in the middle of May and ends at the end of September.

Salmons and cods are caught also in the waters adjoining Karafuto, the Hokkaido, and the North Eastern waters.

The annual catch in recent years is shown in the table to follow:

1. Salmons and Trouts

Year	Number of fishermen	Catch	Value
1930	998	680.000	¥501.000
1931	1,346	1.172.000	1.225.000
1932	1.425	3 282.000	2.695.000
1933	3.709	5.626.000	5.175.000
1934	5.543	8.941.000	10.239.000
1935	4.972	11.544.000	10.129.000
1936	3.478	8.976.000	9.691.000
1937	3,310	10.115.000	14.615.000
1938	3,259	9.803.000	14.125.000
1939	5,626	11,651,000	21.132.000
1940	6.790	10.400.000	15.558.000
2. Crabs			
1930	7.235	24.056 000	13.148.000
1931	3.193	15.186.000	7.303.000
1932	2.445	10.356.000	5.468.000
1933	2.955	9.462.000	7.176.000
1934	3.120	9.931.000	7.733.000
1935	3.124	11.332.000	8.428.000
1936	3.243	13.948.000	9.490.000
1937	3.420	14.913.000	11.194.000
1938	2.824	18.536.000	13.886.000
1939	2.597	14.230.000	10.441.000
1940	1.514	8.558.000	6.065.000

The
Yokohama Specie Bank
Limited.
Established 1880
Capital, Paid-up .. ¥100,000,000
Reserve Fund ¥147,150,000
PRESIDENT:
T. OKUBO
VICE-PRESIDENTS:
H. KASHIWAGI
S. ARAKAWA
DIRECTORS:
T. Okubo — D. Nohara
H. Kashiwagi — C. Arima
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Tokyo Branch
No. 6, 1-chome, Honkoku-cho, Nihombashi-ku
J. KIYOSE, Manager
Marunouchi Agency
No. 2, 1-chome, Marunouchi Kojimachi-ku
J. KIYOSE, Agent
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Japan
Kobe, Marunouchi (Tokyo), Moji Nagasaki, Nagoya, Osaka, Otaru Tokyo, Yokohama (Head Office).
Manchoukuo & Mongolia
Changchiakow, Dairen, Fengtien, Harbin, Hsinking, Yingkow.
China
Canton, Chefoo, Hankow, Hoihow, Nanking, Peking, Shanghai, Tientsin, Tsinan, Tsingtao.
Hongkong
Hongkong.
French-Indo-China
Haiphong, Hanoi, Saigon.
Thailand
Bangkok.
Burma
Bassein, Mandalay, Moulmein, Rangoon.
Malaya
Alor Star, Ipoh, Johore-Bharu, Kota-Bharu, Kuala-Lipis, Kuala-Lumpur, Kuala-Trengganu, Malacca Penang, Seremban, Shonan, Taiping.
Sumatra
Djambi, Kota-Raja, Medan, Padang, Pakanbaroe, Palembang, Pangkal-Pinang, Telok-Betong.
Java
Bandoeng, Batavia, Cheribon Djember, Djokja (Jogjakarta), Kediri, Madioen, Magelang, Malang Semarang, Serang, Solo (Sorakarta), Sourabaya, Tjilatjap.
North Borneo
Jesselton, Kuching, Miri, Sandakan, Sibu, Tawao.
Philippine
Manila.
Europe & South America
Berlin, Hamburg, Paris, Rio de Janeiro.
Temporarily Closed
Alexandria, Bombay, Calcutta Honolulu, Karachi, London, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco, Seattle, Sydney.

Closing Quotations Of Key Stocks And Bonds

Yesterday's final prices of key stocks and bonds on the Tokyo Stock Exchange follow, in yen:

		Comp. with prev. day
Tokyo Exchange, new (short-term)	92.30	+ 2.30
N.Y.K., new (short-term)	76.20	— 0.20
Kanebo Spinning, new (short-term)	74.90	Same
Gov't Bond, Kogo 5%	108.15	Same

RISING INFLATION SEEN IN CHUNGKING BUDGET

According to a message from Chungking, the Takungpao, the organ paper of Chiang Kai-shek regime, in its issue of December 18, gives the next year's budget of Chungking as follows, says Domei's correspondent at Canton.

The total amount of the disbursement for next year is fixed at 1,800,000,000 yuan, while the revenue, including all tax revenues, such as the tax revenue from all agricultural crops, the revenue from all direct taxes, monopoly taxes, consumption taxes, import duties, and others, will cover only one-third or one-half of the expenditure.

The amount stated is 15 times as large as the expenditure of the Chiang Kai-shek regime just before the outbreak of the China affair. The Chungking regime authorities are boasting of the severe increase in the revenue from the monopoly business, saying that it will amount to 150,000,000 yuan, including the 100,000,000 yuan from the monopoly of sugar industry. The figures, if perfectly true will avail very little in the way of saving the Chungking regime from the great financial difficulty it is experiencing at present.

The Dai-Ichi Ginko, Ltd.
(Formerly The First National Bank)
(ESTABLISHED 1873)
CAPITAL (Paid up) ¥57,500,000
RESERVE ¥89,500,000
A Complete Banking Service
Head Office: Tokyo
BRANCHES:
Yokohama, Nagoya, Kobe, Osaka, Kyoto and other principal cities at home; Seoul, Fusan in Korea, Dairen in Manchuria.
Correspondents:—All important places at home and abroad.

The Mitsui Bank, Limited
Capital Subscribed ¥100,000,000
Capital Paid-up 60,000,000
Reserve Funds and Undivided Profits 95,795,067
(SEPTEMBER, 1942)
HEAD OFFICE: TOKYO
11, Muromachi 2-chome, Nihonbashi-ku
Inland Branches:
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Bombay, Dairen, London, New York, Shanghai, Sourabaya.

THE SANWA BANK LTD.
CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED ¥ 107,200,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP 72,200,000
RESERVE FUNDS 52,860,000
DEPOSITS (30/6/'42) 3,544,424,853
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Vice-President: KIYOHIDE OKANO
Managing Directors:
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Sadakuni Kato, Shigekazu Ono
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TOKYO OFFICE: Marunouchi 1-chome, Tokyo
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TOKYO, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1942

Japan-Thai Cultural Agreement Coming into Force

With due exchange of ratifications in Bangkok on December 21, the Japan-Thai Cultural Agreement signed in Tokyo on October 28 this year between Masayuki Tani, the Japanese Foreign Minister, and Nai Direck Jaiyanama, the Thai Ambassador to Japan, has come into force.

This Cultural Agreement has for its object the cultivation of closer cultural relations between Japan and Thailand so that a valuable contribution may be made toward the cultural progress of East Asia. It is intended that, with mutual regard for each other's characteristic culture, the contracting countries should promote the interchange of these cultures and help forward their development It is further meant by this means to put Japan-Thai friendly relations on a firmer basis. In short, it is an epoch-making pact with important bearings on the establishment of culture within the Co-Prosperity Sphere of Greater East Asia.

Under the new Cultural Agreement, close ties of cooperation are to be forged between the two nations in all branches of culture with a view to deepening the knowledge and understanding of each other, and, for the attainment of this object, conferences and other meetings of cultural leaders in both countries and of those in charge of cultural enterprises are to be organized. It is also proposed that organs designed to introduce the culture of each to the other should be set up in the capitals of both countries and that various cultural organizations, research institutes, museums, libraries, schools and other institutions for social welfare should be established or expanded. Among the multifarious activities which these institutions are expected to undertake are the creation of the chairs of culture, the exchange of professors, scholars and students, the encouragement of religious and other activities, the exchange, invitation and dispatch of persons associated with these activities, the holding of exhibitions of literary works and fine art, the exchange of young athletes, the interchange of publications, films, records, and music-books and the exchange of broadcasts. In short, it is so provided that no effort should be spared to promote all kinds of enterprises calculated to promote the knowledge and understanding of each other's culture among the peoples of the contracting countries. It is no exaggeration to say that it is more perfect and complete in its details than any Agreement of a similar nature hitherto concluded.

It is also stipulated that cultural liaison councils should be set up both in Tokyo and in Bangkok to promote collaboration in regard to the successful operation of the Agreement, details regarding the constitution, etc. of these bodies to be fixed after due consultations between the diplomatic organs of the countries concerned. Altogether, it is confidently expected that, through the operation of this Agreement, a very valuable contribution will be made at once toward the interchange and development of Japanese and Thai cultures and toward the cultural progress of the Co-Prosperity Sphere of Greater East Asia.

There already exists an offensive and defensive alliance between Japan and Thailand and these countries are thus aligned completely against America and Britain. Not only are they closely allied, politically and militarily, for the common object of defeating America and Britain and of establishing a new order in East Asia but they are working conjointly, through economic cooperation in various forms, for the establishment of the Co-Prosperity Sphere of Greater East Asia. To strengthen the ties of collaboration further, the new Cultural Agreement has just been put into operation to ensure close cultural cooperation between the two nations and to help forward the cultural progress of Greater East Asia. This is, indeed, a matter for genuine congratulation.

We take the present opportunity of the enforcement of the Japan-Thai Cultural Agreement to express the earnest desire that, in full recognition of its great importance, the Governments and peoples of both countries will cooperate closely to see that the Agreement is operated most successfully.

The Belated American Admission on Pearl Harbor

One of the aftermaths of the belated American report on the Pearl Harbor debacle issued on December 6 in a vain attempt to whip up war sentiment on the occasion of the first anniversary of the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, has been the reaction in the press of the various neutral countries. No doubt the United States authorities hoped to strengthen their own position by issuing this report, but the result has been just the opposite.

It may be remembered that soon after the astounding Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on the opening day of the war, the United States government clamped a rigid censorship on all news pertaining to the battle. In official statements issued at the time, the American authorities announced that the United States had lost only one battleship and one destroyer, and that the damage to the fighting power of the United States navy, although serious, had not been catastrophic.

The official explanations of the American authorities were naturally open to grave suspicion, to put it mildly, for enough news had been broadcast even in the United States before the censorship went into effect to indicate pretty clearly that the blow to the United States had been overwhelming. A famous American commentator announced immediately after the battle that the American losses had reached "giddy proportions."

In view of the equivocal attitude of the American authorities, the only source of accurate information concerning the results of the battle at Pearl Harbor remained the official announcements of the Japanese Imperial Headquarters. From these announcements the world learned that the main battle strength of the Pacific Fleet of the United States navy had been effectively destroyed, that almost without exception the main fighting units of the American fleet had been reduced in a single day from the greatest naval power in the world to a third rate naval power.

Now after a full year has elapsed, the American authorities have come out with full report admitting most of the details. At last they have in effect admitted the truth of the original Japanese announcements. After a year had elapsed, after it was possible for them to announce that some considerable repairs and reconstruction had been completed, the American authorities saw fit to admit the real extent of their losses. By making this admission, they undoubtedly hoped to spur the lagging fighting spirit of their people. After a year had elapsed, they apparently hoped that it was safe to make the admission which would have shocked their public beyond recovery had it been made earlier.

But the effect has been to discredit the American authorities more than ever. Particularly in neutral countries where the people have had the opportunity to compare the official Japanese and the American reports objectively, the contrast between the promptness and accuracy of the Japanese announcements and the dilatoriness and evasiveness of the American announcements has made the most marked impression.

A good example of this neutral reaction is a recent article entitled "The Truth Will Out" which appeared in the National Tidningen of Stockholm. This Swedish journal quotes the famous saying of Abraham Lincoln: "You can fool all the people some of the time, some of the people all the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time." It then goes on to say that the world has come to realize the truth of this statement more than ever after perusing the reports which emanate from Washington. The latest report of the American authorities concerning their losses at Pearl Harbor, issued one year after the event, illustrates this better than anything else Unable to fool all the people all the time, even the Washington authorities have belatedly come around to admitting the truth at long last, observes this Swedish paper.

Thus, whatever the American authorities may do, whether they attempt to hide the truth or whether they finally admit the truth, the world has come to size them up for what they really are. As long as the world compares the Japanese with the American announcements, it is no wonder that the American announcements invariably come out second best.

BUGBEAR INFLATION STALKS INTO HOMES OF PEOPLE IN U.S.

Shortage of Materials and Plethora of Floating Funds Are Principal Causes for Rocketing Prices

By KATSUMI ONO
(From the Boeki Tosei-kai Kaiho)

In America today, luxuries and material comforts, which were once synonymous with American life, have fleeted by into the dreamland of yesterday. Today, after one year of war, America is swathed in a fog of want, shortages, controls, discontent and anxiety.

The change-over from peacetime to war footing in America has brought about revolutionary changes in the daily life of an average American. His financial responsibility to the government has increased by leaps and bounds during the recent years; his former material comforts are hackled to bits by controls and restrictions while shortages of materials are steadily becoming worse than ever.

The American Government has designated itself as the "Arsenal of Democracy" and says that her allies, Britain, the Soviet Union, Chungking, and Australia will be supplied with war equipment and materials to fight the Axis Powers. While not doubting her capacity, it is obvious that such undertaking is bound to cause severe repercussion at home. And, it is the American people who will bear the brunt.

To this end, the American Government have out at its disposal huge sums of money. The American budget for the current fiscal year is said to be $59,000,000,000, of which $56,000,000,000 is for military purposes. To this must be added the supplementary budgets which Roosevelt is frequently asking from the Congress. This would mean the biggest spending by the American Government in her history, and indeed, the biggest spending in the world for any one single year. Fifty-nine billion dollars represents more than one-half of the total American national income.

Expenditures Increase

Let us compare this figure with that of several years back. During 1938 to 1939, just before the outbreak of the European War, American military expenditures totaled $1,160,000,000, and the next year, the figure rose to $1,500,000,000. In the following year, 1940-1941, America spent $6,000,000,000 for war preparations. Even this brought severe rebukes from many Congressmen, especially from the Isolationists. But today, our enemy is throwing $56,000,000,000 into the arsenal to turn out war materials for her allies to fight the war.

The American Government hopes to finance this tremendous spending by increases in taxation and other governmental revenues, and by selling securities and bonds, $27,000,000,000 to be raised through revenues, and $32,000,000,000 through loans. No matter how the Government may raise this money, it has to come from the American people.

Already the American people are laden with a heavy financial burden, and this tremendous spending will proportionately increase their share. Let us see the increase of the financial obligation of the American people in recent years. In 1929, a man without dependents with a yearly income of $3,000 paid to the Government $1.87 in taxation. In 1940, he paid $30.80, which is an increase of 367 per cent over 1929. By the end of 1941, however, he was paying $151.80 to the Government, or an increase of 1,660 per cent. In 1916, just before America entered the First World War, a financial burden per capita was $25, and in 1941, before her entry into the present war, it was $107 per capita. Figures for 1942 are not available, but it can be assumed that the increase of American taxation is just as high as her spending.

Although the appropriation bill was passed by the Congress almost unanimously, it must be remembered that the bill was rushed through the Congress in the excitement of the war, and without much discussion. However, it is understood that many people all over the country, especially people of the middle class, and businessmen are known to be squeamish, for they will be most hard hit.

Shortage Acute

Although America had heretofore boasted of plethoric resources, she is now faced with acute shortages in many of the vital materials. Materials such as rubber, tin, hemp, antimony, coconut oil, etc., for which America was entirely dependent on foreign sources, are no longer available with the Japanese occupation of the vital areas in the South. Other materials which are available in South America, but made scarce by the intensive Axis submarine warfare are coffee, cocoa, sugar, banana, and other food products, and chrome, tungsten, manganese and vanadium which are essential to the American steel industry. Likewise, woolen and leather goods are no longer available from Australia.

Even before the war, American shipping situation was not encouraging. America was carrying on her international commerce on chartered or foreign ships. Only 20 per cent of the entire trade was carried on her own ships. And, most of the ships America did possess were too old for first-class service. Now, with the war, her shipping situation is further aggravated by the intensive Axis submarine activity. During the month of November, German U-boats alone destroyed more than a million tons of Allied shipping. Japanese, German and Italian submarines are working havoc on enemy shipping in the Pacific, in the Indian Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, and in the Mediterranean.

Because of this ceaseless submarine activity, transportation of materials to and from South America, India, South Africa, and Australia is almost an impossible task, especially when priority to shipping space is given to war materials. It is said that enemy shipping traffic between these countries are almost at a standstill. For instance, at various South American ports, huge stocks of materials consigned to America are said to be piled up at the docks waiting for ships to take them away.

Control Tightened

This condition necessitated the American Government to impose a rigid control on production and consumption of commodities.

In May, this year, the sale of sugar was put on a ticket system. This is the first ticket system in American history. America has the highest sugar consumption per capita in the world. Although before the war, America produced more sugar than she was able to consume, and had to put the production on quota basis, a sugar shortage is said to be most acute. She is also faced with a shortage in coffee and cocoa which every American household consumes in large quantities. Their prices are said to have risen more than 50 per cent since the war began. Americans are fearing that the prices of these commodities will rise still further, and that the ticket system may be enforced if the shortage is not corrected soon.

Because of shortage in tin which was formerly imported from the areas now under Japanese control, the American Government was compelled to enforce a drastic curtailment in canning foodstuff and beer, etc.

Even in clothing, Americans are wearing shorter overcoats, suits with no pockets and bands. Double breasted suits are banned, and American women are deprived of their silk stockings and garments.

Furthermore, the manufacture of radios, vacuum cleaners, refrigerators, typewriters, etc., is drastically curtailed, or otherwise absolutely forbidden.

Even the agricultural products which are normally produced abundantly are not produced sufficiently. This is due to the special emphasis being placed on the war industries. Hundreds of thousands of men and women who were formerly working on the farms are now needed by the factories, while the youths are being taken into the services.

Agriculture Hit

In a speech in New York recently, Claude Wickard, the American Secretary of Agriculture, called on the farmer throughout the country to redouble their efforts for a greater agricultural output. He told his listeners that he wanted agricultural production to be doubled by the end of next year, but reminded them that much difficulties must be overcome. He said many materials will be lacking, many tools essential to the cultivation may not be obtained, and machinery totally unavailable.

Leon Henderson, head of Civilian Supplies, had to tender his resignation to the Chief of War Production, Donald Nelson. This testifies to the fact that the office of Civilian Supplies is not functioning smoothly.

The hardest hit in the comfor's of the American people is probably the limited use of automobiles which have become in recent years almost a necessity in the American way of life. In order to conserve rubber and steel, and for other military reasons, the American Government immediately upon the outbreak of the war announced a drastic curtailment of automobile production to 50,000 vehicles for the year. Most of the automobile factories are said to have been converted to produce war equipment. In normal time, America produced about 5,000,000 vehicles annually, and it is hardly likely that any of the 50,000 to be turned out this year will be available for civilian use.

And, furthermore, due to the lack of rubber tires, and the drastic curtailment in gasoline consumption, the bulk of the 33,000,000 automobiles owned by civilians must be remaining idle in the garages all over the country.

Although gasoline shortage is felt throughout America, ticket system for gasoline is in force only in 17 eastern states where shortage is most acute. It is believed that the ticket system will be in force in every state before long. Car owners of the 17 affected eastern states are allowed 50 liters a month, or about ten gallons.

America is the greatest oil producing country in the world, but her oilfields are located in the southern Pacific coast and around the Gulf of Mexico. In normal time, daily petroleum consumption of these 17 states was said to have been 1,600,000 barrels. With American entry into the war, the principal means of carrying oil to these states has been seriously disrupted by the intensive Axis submarine campaign in the Caribbean Sea and off the eastern Atlantic coast. Overland transportation is insignificant, the capacity by railway being 150,000 barrels a day, and pipe-lines, 200,000 a day.

Of course, in time of war, people of every nation are called upon to make sacrifices. However, this could only be done when the Government and its people are bound as one unit as Japan, Germany and Italy. But in America, it seems that such unity does not exist. As a matter of fact, the American people as yet do not know the real causes of this war, and what they are fighting for. They do not seem to know why American youths must be sent thousands of miles away from their homes when America could have stayed peaceful.

Rational Americans are beginning to doubt the integrity of their Government's communiques which try to white-wash defeats with fabricated stories of victories, and with optimistic sounding of growing war production. According to reports from Washington, certain congressmen are said to have branded the Roosevelt Administration for keeping silent on war situation, and they demanded to know the truth.

In this way, indications come to the surface showing that things are not going smoothly in America, and as people get to know the truth, feelings of discontent will gradually ooze out to the surface.

Realizing this, and in order to instil war fever among her people, the Undersecretary of State, Sumner Welles, and Vice-President, Henry Wallace and other American leaders are telling their people of a happy post-war world from which fear, want, disease, squalor, idleness, and other evils will be eliminated. The enemies cannot be fighting to remove these evils, for they are social evils peculiar only to the democracies, in the land of plenty.

In the Periodicals

Fujin Koron, Vol. 28, No. 1, January, 1943 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Chuo Koron-sha, Tokyo. Price 60 sen. Leading articles: Devotion of Public Service, Science, Man and State, Songs of Defense of Fatherland, Yamato and Shinano Highways, and War and Peace.

Toyo Keizai Shimpo, Nos. 2,051 and 2,052 dated December 12 and 19, 1942, respectively (in Japanese), Publishers, the Toyo Keizai Shimposha, Tokyo. Price 35 sen. Leading articles: Determination for Victory or Death, Discussions of Foodstuff Distribution Problem, Future of France, Changing Oil Industrial Business, Labor Power in Chosen, Highlights of a Round-table Conference on Counter-Measures of Labor, and Problem of Increased Production of Special Steel.

Shufu no Tomo, Vol. 27, No. 1, January, 1943 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Shufu no Tomo-sha, Tokyo. Price 50 sen. Feature articles: Report of the Battle of South Pacific, Construction of Life to Achieve Complete Victory, Naval Academy, Spirit of the Imperial Japanese Army, Justice and Way of Japanese Women, and Marriage and Family Construction.

Kokusai Keizai Shuho, Vol. 23, No. 50 dated December 12, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Domei Tsushin-sha, Tokyo. Price 30 sen. Leading articles: Suggestions for Cultural Works in Southern Regions, Burma's Central Administration Organ, Japanese Rice Crop in the Philippines, Modern War and Manpower Resources, Population Problem, Establishment of Labor Structure, Present Phase of Rural Pacification Works, German-Soviet War in Winter, and America's Wartime Economy Analyzed.

Bungei, Vol. 10, No. 12, December, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Kaizo-sha, Tokyo. Price 70 sen. Feature articles: Highlights of Greater East Asia Writers' Convention, December 8, 1941, America, and the Late Hakushu Kitahara, famous poet.

Fruits of Wisdom

He who always seeks more light the more he finds, and finds more the more he seeks, is one of the few happy mortals who take and give in every point of time. The tide and ebb of giving and receiving is the sum of human happiness, which he alone enjoys who always wishes to acquire new knowledge, and always finds its.—Lavater.

FERVENT NATIONALISM SPURS JAPAN TO NEW HEIGHTS OF GLORY

Ancient Battle Spirit Recrudescences in Furious Outburst Against Anglo-American Power

By SEIICHI OKAMOTO
(From the Chuo Koron)

The fervent nationalism and Japanese spirit which have dominated our nation for many centuries have come to the fore with the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, crushing the imperialistic Anglo-American ideology. Things Japanese which had been relegated to the background have also surged forth with a tremendous power.

The true Japanese ideology has now become firmly established with its influence felt far and wide. It has penetrated not only into the realm of thought but in politics, economics and arts as well.

The Japanese spirit is imbued with the cultural heritages of a history of more than thirty centuries. However, the Japanese spirit we speak of today is of a different category from that of the medieval age. In other words, the Japanese spirit took on a new garb with the advent of the Meiji era in 1868. In this sense, the Japanese spirit we speak of is the modern Japanese spirit and quite distinct from that of the medieval age.

In February, 1868, the Government of modern Japan established the commissioner of the Shinto religion. On March 28, the same year, the Government issued an ordinance, prohibiting the association of Buddhism with Shintoism at all religious institutions.

Shinto Movement Started

Great significance was placed on the movement for the restoration of Shintoism among the government officials in the early part of modern Japan. The establishment of modern government, as a result of the Shinto restoration movement, was understood by scholars and intellectuals backing the movement, as the culminating point of the unification of the Shinto religion and the State. With the Meiji Restoration, an ordinance calling for the separation of Buddhism from Shinto religious institutions was issued. Young disciples of the scholars of classics in their enthusiasm to exalt the Shinto religion started a movement against Buddhist institutions, and destroyed temple structures and other ancient temple art objects. The scholars in the latter part of the Tokugawa regime and the early part of the Meiji era had thus attained their ideals. They strenuously objected to foreign intercourse and westernization and were determined to exclude all things foreign including Buddhism by replacing them with things genuinely Japanese. However, modern Japan advanced just the other way, and courageously adopted the culture and civilization of the West. A clear line of distinction between the Japanese spirit of modern Japan and that of the medieval age was established as the former sprouted and flourished on the ruin of the latter.

Modern Japan, adopted the policy of discarding all the old absurd customs and sought the advancement of knowledge from abroad. All measures were to be decided by public opinion as prescribed in the Charter Oath of Japan. The new Government valiantly started on its new career for the acquisition of freedom and the right of the people. In this new era, things of the West became an object of study while the old Japanese classics were relegated to the background.

This tendency became all the more apparent particularly after 1871. Books written by western liberal thinkers were avidly read and many of them were translated by Japanese students. Many thinkers in those days, who were blinded by the glory of Western culture and civilization, expressed their views of admiration for the West.

Japanese Culture Not Neglected

However, with the progress of this westernization movement the Japanese were by no means totally neglecting their own culture. The establishment of the Kogaku-kan (a Shinto educational institution) at the Grand Shrines of Ise, the establishment of a chair at the literary department of the Imperial University for the study of classics and the publication of a treatise on the Imperial Family in 1882 by the late Yukichi Fukuzawa are some of evidences that bear witness to this fact. These expressions in the interest of classics attracted the attention of the public, and urged the people for the necessity to reexamine the fundamental character of the Japanese nation.

Dr. Shigeki Nishimura expressed his views on Japanese moral conception at a lecture meeting held at the Tokyo Imperial University in December, 1886. This stimulated the ideologists of Japan and a movement was started for the preservation of Japanese national characteristics. As the result, many organizations headed by scholars and thinkers of the time were established to assist in the movement.

This nationalist movement of the mid-Meiji era was stimulated by the promulgation of the National Constitution and the Imperial Educational Rescript. This movement was historially different from the nationalistic movement in the early part of the Meiji era which demanded the restoration of old Shintoism, excluding Buddhism and others which were not genuinely Japanese. On the contrary, it recognized Buddhism, Confucianism and all others except the ideology centered around Christianity. It was led by Buddhist and Confucianist scholars instead of scholars of classics as in the movement of the early Meiji era.

Individualism is of such a nature as to expand into internationalism while nationalism tends to separate itself from the world, and the stronger the power of the former the stronger the power for the latter to become nationalistic.

Japan emerged the victor in the Sino-Japanese War of 1894-1895 and was rapidly becoming established as a world power. With the ascendancy of the Japanese spirit, eminent writers such as Chogyu Takayama, Yotaro Kimura and Takehiko Yumoto strongly advocated Nipponism, and utilized such press organs as the Taiyo (the Sun) and the Nippon-jin (the Japanese) as their weapons for the propagation of this spirit. They emphasized the positive aspect of the Japanese spirit while the past nationalistic movement merely confined its activity for the preservation of national characteristics. They preached the spirit of independence, the necessity of enriching and strengthening the national power and the ideas of the State, and extolled the wonderful quality of the Japanese race. During the next several years, critics, voicing the greatness of the fundamental character of the Japanese nation, and the glory of Japanese nationalism greatly increased in number. They strove to awaken in the hearts of the people a consciousness of personal independence, as they firmly believed that those people who lacked the spirit of personal independence were also indifferent to nationalism.

In a matter of few years, Chogyu Takayama, who championed the cause of Nipponism in 1897, became an advocate of the theory of aesthetic life, subscribing to the view maintained by Nietzsche. He declared that "the aesthetic life is that which satisfies the natural demand of life." It was this view that made him an idol of the Japanese younger generation of his time.

National Consciousness Awakened

With the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese War in 1904, the young Japanese became more concerned with the desperate situation confronting their country than with their personal life problems. The national struggle awakened them and the people at large to their national consciousness. It was natural that under such conditions the Japanese spirit became once more stressed and began to develop hand in hand with the doctrines of nationalism. Nationalists actively endeavored to promote friendly relations between the East and West and to make Japan the leader of the Asiatic races.

In the world of literary endeavor, Japan witnessed the rise of naturalism with such literati as Kunikida Doppo and Tayama Katai as the champions of the new movement. The people had become more and more interested in religion.

At the time of the first World War, while both racialism and nationalism were still in a feeble condition, this prosperity led to a state of frivolous instability. On the other hand, however, the thinking class of Japan was grouping for the reality of life. Those who had been living in the world of doubt since the middle of the Meiji era began to fathom deeper into the mystery of life, in search for solutions to their spiritual problems. Learning, religion, art, literature, painting, sculpture and all the other aspects of Japanese culture sought abroad for something that might cast some light on the reality of life.

New dramatic movements were started, and the literary appreciation of the people gradually increased. Painting and sculpture and other branches of Japanese culture began to manifest true sincerity of spirit. Learning reached a high pinnacle and religion was apparently regaining its former influence.

Nationalist Movements

The Asiatic aspect of Japanese nationalism was beginning to loom forth about this time. In China, Dr. Sun Yat-sen was exerting his efforts for the realization of a nationalist revolution, Mahatma Gandhi started a movement for the independence of India. Japanese nationalists who were seriously concerned with the condition of Manchuria cast their lot with the nationalists of China for the salvation of four hundred million Chinese. In the meantime, Tagore of India visited Japan. It was about this time that Dr. Sun Yat-sen came to this country as a political refugee, and such prominent Japanese as Mitsuru Toyama freely ex-

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